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Blair Rutherford (Ottawa)

The Moral Politics of Gendered Labour in Artisanal Mining in Sierra Leone: On Women's Empowerment, Family Workers, and the Anthropology of Labour

Drawing on current anthropological approaches to labour, this talk will examine some of the moral politics mobilized around women and artisanal mining in policy-inflected scholarship as well as within particular gold mining zones in Tonkolili district, Sierra Leone. In so doing the presentation suggests that such a focus on labour not only allows one to appreciate how sentiments concerning (im)proper behaviour infuse wider policy proposals to amend social arrangements in regards to what is called "artisanal mining," but it also offers insight into some of the enduring moral politics helping to constitute women as "family workers" in the actual artisanal gold mining zones. The talk suggests examining the overlapping moral politics constituting women's labour practices provides a more supple understanding of the contested economic possibilities for women in this economic livelihood.

Blair Rutherford is a professor of Anthropology at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. He is the author of *Working on the Margins: Black Workers, White Farmers in Post-Colonial Zimbabwe* (2001, Zed Books & Weaver Press), *The Ground of Politics: Zimbabwean Farm Workers in a Time of Change* (2017, Indiana University Press), and co-editor of *Sexual Violence in Conflict and Post-Conflict Societies: International Agendas and African Contexts* (2014, Routledge). He currently is a fellow at re:work (IGK Work and Human Life Cycle in Global History) at Humboldt University in Berlin.

Institutskolloquium Sommersemester 2019 (Leitung: Heike Drotbohm)

Wann? Dienstag, 7. Mai 2019, 18:15-19:45 Uhr

Wo? Hörsaal 14 / Großer Übungsraum (Raum 01-715), Forum 7, Becherweg 4, 1. Stock,

Weitere Informationen: www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de