

Call for Papers (Edited Volume)

Queer Organizing in the 'Periphery': A South-Centric Perspective on Transnational LGBTIQ Activism

Editors: Sa'ed Atshan (Emory University), Phillip Ayoub (University College London), Janine Clark (University of Toronto)

This edited volume brings together scholars examining regional, cross-regional and cross-national LGBTIQ activism in the Global South. While raising concerns about the power imbalance between the Global North and the Global South, the literature on transnational LGBTIQ advocacy work continues to neglect the growing number of transnational advocacy initiatives arising within the Global South. Addressing this lacuna, this edited volume specifically shines a light on such South-South LGBTIQ initiatives, as well as the innovations and challenges they provoke. Contributors will engage with the theoretical and practical implications of regional, cross-regional and cross-national LGBTIQ alliances, networks and dialogues. First, what are the outcomes of transnational activism that orients its gaze towards and within other activists/organizations in the Global South? Second, do the innovations that arise in these South-South collaborations influence activism globally? By that we mean, what do we see when we invert the lens and examine the impact of activism in the Global South upon activism in the Global North? Third, how does a South-centric perspective inform and reshape our theoretical understandings and models of transnational activism generally, as well as, LGBTIQ organizing specifically?

These overarching questions will take shape in a variety of different ways across contributions that may also invite reflection on related questions of such a project. For example, what does it mean for LGBTIQ activism to be grounded in the local, and what does this look like in practice? To what extent and how do these initiatives constitute decolonial activism? Do regional or crossregional initiatives enable activists to pursue priorities that are not on the agenda of Global North funders? How do those engaged in regional and cross-regional networks and initiatives understand these activities and connections? While the first set of overarching questions are essential for guiding a coherent volume, there are many directions the distinct contributions can take.

We welcome abstracts for potential chapters on transnational LGBTIQ activism, specifically with a Southern-centric focus and involving three primary questions:

- 1) What does South-South activism look like? By that we mean, what does transnational activism look like when Global South activists orient their gaze

towards other activists/organizations in the Global South? And what are its impacts?

2) How does South-South activism influence activism globally? Inverting the usual lens that examines the impact of the Global North upon the Global South, what do we see when we examine the impact of activism in the Global South upon activism in the Global North?

3) How does a South-centric perspective inform our theoretical understandings of transnational activism?

The volume will represent a wide range of geographies, including East, South, and Southeast Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Pacific.

It will be interdisciplinary and we welcome contributions from the social sciences, including anthropology, economics, political science, and sociology; as well as gender and sexuality studies and religious studies. Importantly, all contributions should engage with the project's framing question and be grounded in field work or other data collection (broadly conceived) – ethnographic, qualitative, quantitative or mixed-method.

We aim to publish in a top university press (editors have expressed interest).

Abstracts should be emailed to the three of us (see information below) and with the following information:

- Name and email
- Title
- 250 word bio
- 500 word abstract

May 1, 2023: Deadline for abstract submissions

May 15, 2023: Notifications from editors

June 1, 2023: Commitments from contributors

February 28, 2024: Deadline for first chapter submissions

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