

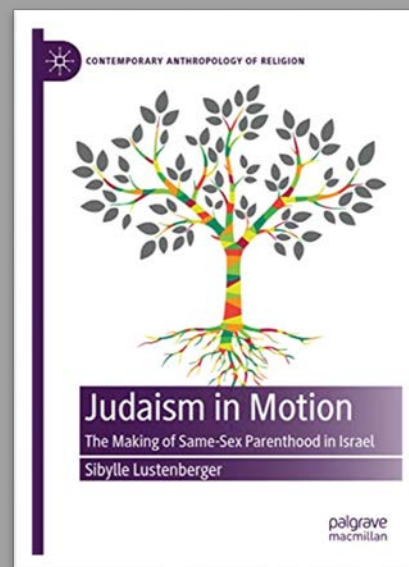
Emory Ethnographic Forum New Book Series Virtual Event, Spring 2021

Sibylle Lustenberger, University of Frieberg, Switzerland, "*Judaism in Motion: The Making of Same-Sex Parenthood in Israel* (Palgrave 2020)"



Sibylle Lustenberger specializes in the ongoing significance of kinship for the (re)production of collective identities and societal structures in (post)modern states. She is particularly interested in the dynamic interplay between kinship, politics, religion, and capitalism. For her work on *Judaism in Motion. The Making of Same-Sex Parenthood in Israel* (Palgrave 2020), Sibylle has conducted long-term ethnographic research in Israel and fieldwork in Mumbai, where she studied gay men's experiences with transnational surrogacy. Findings of this research have been published in venues including *Sexualities*, *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*, and *Israel Studies Review*. **Sibylle serves as a board-member of the Journal of the Swiss Anthropological Association. She is a faculty member at the Department of Social Sciences at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland**, where she is developing a new project on the social organization of renewable electricity production in the Swiss Alps and the role that kinship therein plays.

Judaism in Motion. The Making of Same-Sex Parenthood in Israel (Palgrave 2020) examines the political, rabbinic, and cultural dynamics at play in the contemporary creation of gay and lesbian families. It follows same-sex couples on their path to parenthood to show how various actors – the couples, their families, medical personnel in fertility clinics, state workers, and rabbis – grapple with fundamental questions over the norms of reproduction and the authority to define them. In the debates and practices surrounding same-sex parenthood, religiously informed kinship principles and norms are transformed. At the same time, LGBT people from Orthodox homes increasingly form families of their own and thus raise new questions about the role of secular ideas for the making of Orthodox continuity. In addressing the transformation and translation of religious and secular principles, *Judaism in Motion* complicates the commonly held assumption that places same-sex parenthood in a radically secular sphere that stands in stark opposition to religion.



Monday | March 22, 2021 | 12:30-2:00 pm

via Zoom - <https://emory.zoom.us/j/99813763465>

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