

CR&DALL Seminar Series 2023-24:

Place, Residential Mobility and School Choice in Glasgow and Guangzhou

Presenters: Dr Qiong He, Hong Kong University and Dr Colin Mack, University of Glasgow

Date: Wednesday 8th May, 10:00-11:30am BST

Location: Room 517a, St Andrews Building, University of Glasgow

Register: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/cradall/1232292>

This hybrid seminar will combine two presentations connected by a focus on place, residential mobility and school choice in the contexts of Guangzhou, China, and Glasgow, UK.

Infrastructuring mobility via school franchising: Mobilizing educational resources to effectuate middle-class residential mobility in urban China

This paper proposes a concept “intersectional field” to disentangle the complex interrelations between housing and education in China, where they mutually constitute and co-produce yet trouble and counteract with each other, whereby exerting simultaneous exclusion in cultural and economic (re)production. It also uses the Guangzhou case in China to delineate the genesis and evolution of this intersectional field, as well as the middle class strategies in this intersectional field.

About the speaker:

Dr Qiong He is a post-doctoral fellow at University of Hong Kong since 2022, after her graduation from University of Amsterdam. Her interests lie in housing studies, geographies of education and urban inequality and segregation, and social spatial restructuring processes. Her work has been published in journals including *Environment and Planning A: Economy & Space*, *Urban Geography*, *Housing Studies* and *Habitat International*.



School choice 2.0: school and area choices in the Glasgow Region secondary school comprehensive system

This presentation looks at school choice in the Glasgow Region using qualitative data from the internet site Mumsnet. It is argued that there is a need to revisit the Scottish literature on school choice from the 1980s to early 90s, which focused on placement requests and choice of *school*. The

development of the housing market that took place during that time and the increased mobility it now affords has not been studied in relation to school choice in Scotland; and the choice of catchment area and *area* more generally. Further, using a Bourdieusian framework, it argues that choice of school *or* area is more complex: producing a structured system of choices based on the interaction between the housing market, the school system and the economic and cultural capital of parental choosers. This results in a hierarchy of public and state secondary schools in the Glasgow Region (Glasgow City, East Renfrewshire and East Dunbartonshire) similar to Ball at al.'s 'Circuits of Schooling' (1996) but with the critical addition of the housing market. That this additional spatial aspect is absent from the Scottish Government's educational policies on the attainment gap is noted.

About the speaker:

Dr Colin Mack has been a tutor at the University of Glasgow since 2022, after graduating from the same institution and is currently based in Urban Studies. His interests lie in educational inequalities, the sociology of education and class, social theory and the geographies of education and urban inequality.



All are welcome and there is no fee for this event.

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