



Public Lecture Series Spring 2018

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Thursday, 12 April 2018

Immigration and the Election of Donald Trump: Why the Sociology of Migration Left Us Unprepared ... and Why We Shouldn't Have Been Surprised

Prof. Roger Waldinger, UCLA Center for the Study of International Migration, University of California Los Angeles

Discussant: Prof. Janine Dahinden, Laboratory for the Study of Social Processes and Center for the Understanding of Social Processes, University of Neuchâtel

18:15 – 19:45 h

University of Neuchâtel, Rue Abram-Louis-Breguet 2, Room R.113.

Abstract

Donald Trump began his campaign for the U.S. Presidency by emphasizing the supposed dangers of immigration, a theme that he then rode to victory in November 2016. This paper asks whether the sociology of migration can illuminate the sources of Trump's success and after quickly reviewing the key contributions concludes not. Insight, rather, is to be found by understanding the ways in which population movements across state boundaries are a source of both international integration and national dis-integration, producing conflicts over the number, characteristics, and rights of immigrants from which liberal societies can find no escape.

Curriculum Vitae

Roger Waldinger is Distinguished Professor of Sociology at UCLA and Director of the UCLA Center for the Study of International Migration. He has worked on international migration throughout his career, writing on a broad set of topics, including immigrant entrepreneurship, labor markets, assimilation, the second generation, high-skilled immigration, immigration policy, and public opinion. Waldinger has published eight books, most recently *The Cross-Border Connection: Immigrants, Emigrants, and their Homelands* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2015) and *A Century of Transnationalism: Immigrants and their Homeland Connections* (co-edited with Nancy Green; University of Illinois Press, 2016). His most recently completed book manuscript, *Divergent Fates: Origins, Destinations, and the Sociology of the Second Generation*, co-authored with Renee Luthra and Thomas Soehl, will be published by the Russell Sage Foundation Press in fall 2018. A 2008 Guggenheim Fellow, Waldinger's research has been supported by grants from the Ford, Haines, Mellon, National Science, Sloan and Russell Sage Foundations. He received the 2012 Distinguished Career Award from the International Migration Section of the American Sociological Association.

Selected Publications

- *Origins and Destinations: The Sociology of the Second Generation* (with Renee Reichl Luthra and Thomas Soehl), New York: Russell Sage Foundation Press, 2018.
- "A Cross-Border Perspective on Migration: Beyond the Assimilation/Transnationalism Debate," *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 2017.
- *A Century of Transnationalism: Immigrants and their Homeland Connections* (co-edited with Nancy Green), University of Illinois Press, 2016.
- "Bridging the Territorial Divide: Immigrants' Cross-Border Communication and the Spatial Dynamics of Their Kin Networks," (with Sung Park), *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 2016.
- *The Cross-Border Connection: Immigrants, Emigrants, and their Homelands*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2015.
- *How the Other Half Works: Immigration and the Social Organization of Labor*, (with Michael Lichter), Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003.
- *Strangers at the Gates: New Immigrants in Urban America*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 2001.
- *Still the Promised City? New Immigrants and African-Americans in Post-Industrial New York*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1996.