Family Made Strange

The impact of social media on family dynamics, as a *classe popular* family from Recife contemplates the 2018 presidential elections



Benjamin Junge researches class mobility, political attitudes, gender, sexuality, health, and religion, with regional focus on Brazil and other settings in Latin America. His recent publications include Precarious Democracy:

Ethnographies of Hope, Despair and Resistance in Brazil (2021) and Cynical Citizenship: Gender, Regionalism and Political Subjectivity in Porto Alegre, Brazil (2018).

A talk with

Dr. Benjamin Junge

Professor of Anthropology, State University of New York at New Paltz

In this talk, Dr. Junge presents an ethnographic account of an extended "new middle class" family from Recife during the final month of Brazil's 2018 election season — the most contentious and polarizing election in a generation. Emerging within the family's interactions are narratives of moral disintegration, nostalgia for Brazil's 1964-1985 military dictatorship, lost masculinities, menacing sexualities, and various articulations of hope and despair for the future. He argues the crucial role of online social media (chiefly, Facebook and WhatsApp) in cultivating among family member conflicting feelings of unity and solidarity, on the one hand, and disenchantment and alienation on the other.



Thursday, February 17 1:30-2:45 p.m.

Zarrow Hall, Room 145 (J.J. Rhyne Room)

Masks are expected.

Please RSVP at https://bit.ly/3luMcax.



