

COLLOQUIUM BY DEBORAH S. DAVIS

HIS, HER AND THEIR MARRIAGES: (RE)VERTICALIZATION OF KINSHIP LOYALTIES IN URBAN CHINA

TIME: 5-6PM, WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL 2016

VENUE: AB 1079

Speaker: Deborah Davis, Professor of Sociology, Yale University; Distinguished Visiting Professor, Fudan University



ABSTRACT:

Since 2005 demographic, economic, and cultural changes in Chinese cities have so increased parental financial and emotional investments in the weddings and marriages of their (usually) single son or daughter that loyalties between parents and adult children frequently trump those between engaged couples or married spouses. Therefore, in contrast to the “triumph of conjugality” that Yan Yuxiang (2003) identified as the dominant trend during the early 1990s, today one observes a re-verticalization of family loyalty where ties between parents and children frequently overwhelm the “horizontal” conjugal desires and priorities of individual brides and grooms.

BIO:

Prof. Deborah S. Davis is the Professor of Sociology at Yale University. In addition she has run a summer workshop where Yale students work collaboratively with students from Hong Kong and

China. Prof. Davis currently is an Associate Editor of *The Journal of Asian Studies* and on the editorial board of *The China Quarterly* and *The China Review*. At Yale she has served as Director of Academic Programs at the Yale Center for the Study of Globalization, Chair of the Department of Sociology, and Chair of the Council of East Asian Studies. Currently she serves as a vice-president of the Board of Trustees of the Yale-China Association. Professor Davis is the author or editor of ten books, including *The Consumer Revolution in Urban China* (California 2000), *SARS: Reception and Interpretation in three Chinese Cities* (Routledge 2007), *Creating Wealth and Poverty in China* (Stanford 2009), and most recently *Wives, Husbands and Lovers* (Stanford 2014). In 2013 she was awarded the Lex Hixon Prize for Teaching Excellence in the Social Sciences.