

**KE LI**

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## EMPLOYMENT

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 2024–     | Associate Professor<br>Department of Political Science, John Jay College                |
| 2018–2019 | Luce/ACLS Postdoctoral Fellow in China Studies<br>American Council of Learned Societies |
| 2017–2023 | Assistant Professor<br>Department of Political Science, John Jay College                |
| 2015–2017 | Assistant Professor<br>Department of Sociology, Framingham State University             |

## EDUCATION

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 2015 | Joint Ph.D., Sociology and Criminal Justice<br>Indiana University, Bloomington |
| 2007 | M.A., Criminal Justice<br>Indiana University, Bloomington                      |
| 2000 | B.A., Law<br>Nanjing University, China   |

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Law and society, sociology of knowledge, and science and technology studies  
LGBTQ activism, impact litigation, and expert evidence  
Ethnography, historiography, and China

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Book**

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| 2022 | <i>Marriage Unbound: State Law, Power, and Inequality in Contemporary China</i> , Stanford University Press. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Herbert Jacob Book Prize for the best book on law and society<br/>Law and Society Association</li><li>▪ Victoria Schuck Award for the best book on women and politics<br/>American Political Science Association</li><li>▪ C. Herman Pritchett Award for the best book on law and courts<br/>Law and Courts Section, American Political Science Association</li><li>▪ Distinguished Book Award<br/>Sociology of Law Section, American Sociological Association</li><li>▪ Distinguished Book Award<br/>Asian Law and Society Association</li></ul> |
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Reviewed in the *Asian Journal of Law and Society*; *Contemporary Sociology*; *Gender & Society*; *Nan Nü: Men, Women, and Gender in China*; *Pacific Affairs*; *PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review*; *Social Forces*; *The China Journal*; and *The Economist*.

### **Journal articles**

- 2021 “Gendering a New Marker of Adulthood: Home Ownership in Southwest China,” *Sociological Forum* 36(3): 668-688 (with Danielle Kane).
- 2021 “Fertility Cultures and Childbearing Desire After the Two-Child Policy: Evidence from Southwest China,” *Journal of Family Studies* 29(2):1-19 (with Danielle Kane).
- 2020 “Land Dispossession and Women’s Rights Contention in Rural China,” *China Law and Society Review* 5:33-65.
- 2016 “Relational Embeddedness and Socially Motivated Case Screening in the Practice of Law in Rural China,” *Law & Society Review* 50(4): 920-952.
- 2015 “‘What He Did Was Lawful’: Divorce Litigation and Gender Inequality in China,” *Law & Policy* 37(3): 153-179.
- Graduate Student Paper Award  
Sociology of Law Section, American Sociological Association
  - Honorable Mention for Lindesmith Graduate Student Paper Award  
Law and Society Division, Society for the Study of Social Problems

### **Book chapters**

- 2017 “Invisible Victims and Anonymous Communities: U.S. Media Portrayals of Chinese International Students Involved in Homicide.” Pp.139-156 in *Asian/Americans, Education, and Crime: The Model Minority as Victim and Perpetrator*, edited by Daisy Ball and Nicholas D. Hartlep, Landham, MD: Lexington Books.
- 2016 “Wedding Marriage to the Nation-State in Modern China: Legal Consequences for Divorce, Property, and Women’s Rights.” Pp.147-169 in *Domestic Tensions, National Anxieties: Global Perspectives on Marriage, Crisis, and Nation*, edited by Kristin Celello and Hanan Kholoussy, New York: Oxford University Press (with Sara L. Friedman).

### **Other publications**

- 2024 “重启青春期：从寻找边界到跨越边界，” 时间社 THiS.  
<https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/xyUJmmvDlq9AX9nLgUAkmQ>
- 2023 Review of *Violent Intimacy: Family Harmony, State Stability, and Intimate Partner Violence in Post-Socialist China*, by Tiantian Zheng. *The China Quarterly* 254:530-532.

- 2022 “Women’s Rights Taking Center Stage in China,” *East Asia Forum*.  
<https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2022/07/01/womens-rights-taking-centre-stage-in-china/>
- 2022 Review of *Divorce in China: Institutional Constraints and Gendered Outcomes*, by Xin He. *The China Journal* 86(1): 182-184.
- 2021 “监护权争夺战：新的立法能改变“紫丝带妈妈”的命运吗？”学人说。  
<https://new.qq.com/rain/a/20211211A019IW00>
- 2021 “The Effects of Power on Ethnographic Research.” Pp. 210-212 in *Making Sense of Social Science Research: A Student- and Practitioner-Centered Approach*, edited by Pengfei Zhao, Karen Ross, Peiwei Li, and Barbara Dennis, Sage Publication.
- 2019 Review of *Embedded Courts: Judicial Decision-Making in China*, by Kwai Hang Ng and Xin He. *Contemporary Sociology* 48(2):198-200.
- 2010 “Motherhood in Kansas” and “Motherhood in Wisconsin” in *Encyclopedia of Motherhood*, edited by Andrea O'Reilly and J. Geoffrey Golson, New York, SAGE Publication.

**Work in progress**

“Bringing the State Back In: Dispute Resolution and State-(Re)making in the People’s Republic of China” (book chapter in *Elgar Handbooks in Law and Society*, edited by Anne Bloom, David Engel, and Richard Jolly)

“Authoritarian Legality, Gender Politics, and Women’s Rights” (book chapter in the *Oxford Handbook on Law and Authoritarianism*, edited by Cora Chan, Madhav Khosla, Benjamin Liebman, and Mark Tushnet)

**FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS**

**External**

- 2023–2025 Public Intellectuals Program (PIP) Fellow  
 National Committee on US-China Relations
- 2018 Luce/ACLS Postdoctoral Fellowship in China Studies (\$50,000)  
 American Council of Learned Societies
- 2015 Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline (\$7,910)  
 American Sociological Association (with Danielle Kane)
- 2012 Young Scholar Award (\$5,000)  
 China Times Cultural Foundation
- 2011 Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (\$15,000)  
 Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange
- 2011 International Dissertation Research Fellowship (\$11,455)  
 Social Science Research Council

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| 2010                   | Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (\$12,000)<br>National Science Foundation (Law and Social Sciences Program)    |
| 2008                   | China and Inner Asia Council Small Grant (\$2,000)<br>Association for Asian Studies   |
| <b><i>Internal</i></b> |   |
| 2024                   | Faculty Scholarly Excellence Award, John Jay College  |
| 2024                   | Faculty Fellow for China at CUNY Initiative (\$1,000)<br>Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies, CUNY Graduate Center |
| 2023                   | Seed Grant (\$2,500), John Jay College  |
| 2023                   | PSC-CUNY Research Award (\$6,000), CUNY Research Foundation   |
| 2022                   | Seed Grant (\$1,479.93), John Jay College   |
| 2022                   | Kickstart Grant (\$5,000), John Jay College   |
| 2020                   | PSC-CUNY Research Award (\$5,999.99), CUNY Research Foundation  |
| 2020                   | Faculty Fellowship Publication Program, City University of New York   |
| 2019                   | PSC-CUNY Research Award (\$5,999.09), CUNY Research Foundation  |
| 2018                   | PSC-CUNY Research Award(\$11,771.00), CUNY Research Foundation  |
| 2018                   | Scholar Incentive Leave Award (\$18,777), John Jay College  |
| 2017                   | Funded Research Development Seminar (\$1,500), John Jay College   |
| 2015                   | Research Grant (\$1,500), Framingham State University   |
| 2014                   | Atherton Bean Research Fellowship (\$8,000)<br>Department of Sociology, Indiana University                                      |
| 2013                   | Lindesmith-Mullins Fellowship for Excellence in Research (\$8,000)<br>Department of Sociology, Indiana University               |
| 2009                   | Advanced Departmental Fellowship (\$7,500)<br>Department of Sociology, Indiana University                                       |

## **TEACHING**

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| LWS200 | Introduction to Law and Society                     |
| LWS225 | Introduction to Research Methods in Law and Society |
| LWS385 | Legal Disruption Project                            |
| LWS425 | Colloquium for Research in Law and Society          |

## INVITED TALKS

- 2024 “Marriage Unbound: State Law, Power, and Inequality in Contemporary China” Asian American/Asian Research Institute, CUNY
- 2024 “Ethnographic Research in China,” Long US-China Institute, University of California, Irvine, & Council on East Asian Studies, Yale Macmillan Center
- 2023 “Gender Relationships and Politics Against the Backdrop of Demographic Decline in China,” China at CUNY Initiative Student Workshop, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2023 “Bringing the State Back In: Dispute Resolution and State-(Re)making in the People’s Republic of China,” Harvard Law School
- 2023 “Women in China,” Columbia China Forum, Columbia University
- 2023 “Marriage Unbound: State Law, Power, and Inequality in Contemporary China”
- School of Law, New York University
  - Law School, George Washington University
  - Gender Studies Program, Chinese University of Hong Kong
  - Department of Applied Social Sciences, Hong Kong Polytechnic University
  - Oikos Working Group, New York University
  - East Asian Studies Colloquium, University of California, Davis
- 2022 “Marriage Unbound: State Law, Power, and Inequality in Contemporary China”
- Center for Chinese Law and Policy, Durham University
  - East Asian Studies, Dickinson College
  - Equality Rights Project, University of Hong Kong
  - Fujian Academy of Social Sciences
  - Center for Asia-Pacific Initiatives, University of Victoria
  - U.S.-Asia Law Institute, New York University
  - Chinese Feminism
- 2022 “Marriage, Law, and Inequality: Rural Women in China,” Council for Foreign Relations
- 2020 “The Judicialization of Marital and Family Disputes in the 21<sup>st</sup>-Century China”
- Center for Asia-Pacific Initiatives, University of Victoria
  - Center for Chinese Legal Studies, Columbia University
- 2020 “Disputation as a State Enterprise,” Comparative Politics Workshop, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2019 “Marriage Unbound: Divorce Litigation, Power, and Inequality in Contemporary China,” the Center for the Study of Law and Society, University of California, Berkeley

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “Rule of Law in Xi Jinping’s China: The End of Reform?” Association for Asian Studies, Boston

- 2022 “Queer Parenting in China: Synthesizing Research and Advocacy,” Paul Tsai China Center, Yale Law School
- 2022 Northeast Corridor Chinese Law Workshop, the Law School of the George Washington University
- 2022 “Marriage Unbound: State Law, Power, and Inequality in Contemporary China,” CUNY Academy for the Humanities and Sciences
- 2021 “Rural Women and Divorce Litigation: Exploring New Ways to Fuse Ethnography and Historiography in the Study of Chinese Family and Marriage,” Fudan University, China
- 2021 “Marriage Unbound: State Law, Power, and Inequality in Contemporary China,” Global Law & Politics Network Workshop, Department of Political Science, University of Washington
- 2021 New Directions in Law and Society Virtual Graduate Student and Junior Scholar Workshop, Center for Justice, Law, and Societies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- 2021 “The Rise and Fall of Legal Workers in China,” Asian Law Works-in-Progress Session, American Society of International Law and American Society of Comparative Law
- 2021 “Disputation as a State Enterprise,” Association for Asian Studies, virtual conference
- 2021 “Issues and Non-issues in Legal Mobilization,” China Law Conference, University of Toronto School of Law
- 2020 “Disputation as a State Enterprise,” Law and Society Association, virtual conference
- 2020 “Disputation as a State Enterprise,” Northeast Corridor Chinese Law Workshop, the Law School of the George Washington University

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- 2024 Member on the Committee for the Distinguished Book Award  
Sociology of Law Section, American Sociological Association
- 2023 Member on the Committee for the Distinguished Book Award  
Asian Law and Society Association

Reviewer for *Asian Journal of Law and Society*, *Asian Women*, *China Information*, *Contemporary Sociology*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Feminist Legal Studies*, *Gender & Society*, *Hong Kong Law Review*, *Law & Society Review*, *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Law & Policy*, *Sociological Studies*, *the China Journal*, *the History of the Family*, and *Violence Against Women*

## **DEPARTMENTAL & UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

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| 2024–2025 | Faculty Coordinator for the China at CUNY Initiative<br>Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies, CUNY Graduate Center |
| 2019–2023 | Member of Departmental Curriculum Committee<br>Department of Political Science, John Jay College                               |
| 2020–2021 | Law and Society Program Coordinator<br>Department of Political Science, John Jay College                                       |
| 2019–2021 | Member of Undergraduate Curriculum & Academic Standards Committee,<br>John Jay College   |

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Law and Society Association  
Asian Law and Society Association  
American Sociological Association  
American Political Science Association  
Association for Asian Studies