

Human Sciences Encounters in Phnom-Penh Past Presentations

Reducing maternal mortality in cambodia. Local interpretations of the global health agenda

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For decades the objective to reduce maternal mortality rate has mobilized various field of expertise. Poor women living in southern countries have been defined as “beneficiaries” of health programs targeting them as reproductive bodies whose life and procreative products need to be saved. New social practices and individualities have emerged in order to provide prevention and care services for safe delivery and safe abortion. How and to what extent the various forms of medical intervention mobilized in the field of maternal mortality reduction can be analyzed as the articulations of citizenship, identities and biomedical technologies? The purpose of this paper is to revisit my investigation related to birth control and maternal reduction program in Cambodia in exploring its production of social forms, identities and “boundaries of the human”

After more than ten years in the field of international public health in Asia and Africa, Pascale turned to anthropology. Her research concerns the body, illness and medicines in connection with the cultural, social and political dimensions of human reproduction. She has interests in both applied and theoretical anthropology (medical systems, gender, reproductive technologies). Her doctoral thesis in anthropology, conducted in partnership with the French Institute of Pondicherry, explores the social dimension of birth in South India. In 2008-12, her research conducted in collaboration with the Pasteur Institute of Cambodia stands at the intersections of reproduction politics, global flows of medical technologies and social forms and outcomes of inequalities. In 2013, she launched a new research project with the University of Health Sciences in Vientiane, Lao PDR.