Call for Papers for a special issue in the GLOCAL JOMELA (The Journal of Mediterranean and European Linguistic Anthropology), the Journal for The GLOCAL COMELA (The Conference on Mediterranean and European Linguistic Anthropology), at SOAS, University of London.

Theme: “Anthropologies of Gendered Language in Italian communities”

Introduction

Gendered practices throughout history shift yet accumulate over time to inform new and progressive attitudes toward these language and gender. Such constructions evidence themselves in, for example, Italy, a country which has historically sat at geographical and cultural crossroads, not least of which has been the global diaspora and return migration of Italian people. At these crossroads, Italian society has accumulated gendered language practices, in the process of maintaining and negotiating its long cultural heritage, while pursuing transnational identities. Amidst societal constraints and liberties, dynamics in modern Italian familial settings symbolize this struggle, as new generations seek to retain tradition yet to negotiate their heritage identities in transnational spaces, and to thus transgress boundaries of, for example, patriarchy and religion. Through shifting language and gendered identities, then, Italian societies (re)appropriate their cultural affordances, where tensions emerge between these socially motivated gendered restrictions and liberties, evidenced in, for example, Italian migrant communities globally, who struggle to maintain heritage, religion, patriarchal ideals, and so forth, and to acculturate to target cultural systems, influencing gendered roles. Similarly, in the Italian homeland, influences not previously available to older generations socialize new generations in significant ways. This attempt to linguistically negotiate multiple cultural contexts – heritage and modernity, homeland and diasporic contexts, conservatism and liberalism – elicits and intensifies gendered tensions between generations, individuals and communities, paralleling a push and pull between constraint and liberty. As such, gendered language issues become prominent within Italian communities, both in Italy and in diasporic societies globally.

It is therefore necessary to bring analysis and investigation to the construction of gender and language in Italy and in Italian communities globally, drawing on millennia of cultural heritage, cultural construction and gendered reshapings. This scholarship will not only enrich knowledge of Italian language and society as devices representational of Italy’s changing gendered practices, but will also allow for new understandings of ways in which Italian identities intertwine in the political, anthropological, social and cultural scapes that construct modern Italy. This
landscaping of Italian contexts, then, can offer a vantage point from which to conceptualize these language and gender practices, where Italian communities seek to reaffirm Italianness in transnational flows.

To encourage further exploration of links between language and gender in Italian communities globally, we are seeking proposals for contributions for a journal special issue.

Call for papers

We invite proposals for papers for a Special Issue themed “Anthropologies of Gendered Language in Italian communities.” The Special Issue will be published in the GLOCAL JOMELA, the Journal for Mediterranean and European Linguistic Anthropology, housed at SOAS, University of London, positioning these fields within the context of Mediterranean and European society, conceived broadly. We welcome empirical research studies, as well as theoretical and methodological articles. Potential topics include, but are certainly not limited to:

- Patriarchy and matriarchy in Italian society
- Gendered tensions in Italian diasporic contexts
- Negotiating gender and sexuality in discourse in Italian contexts
- The Italian diaspora and its gendered influences in homeland Italy
- Heritage versus modern society, in Italy
- Correlating Italian in the homeland and in diasporic contexts
- Queer representations in Italy
- Italian Film and gendered language
- Representing societal shifts through language and power
- Organization psychology and gendered language in Italian contexts globally
- Comparative studies of language, gender and sexuality in Italian contexts

Proposal Format & Submission

Submit a half-page abstract, of approximately 400 words + references, for a proposed article, to the following:

Editors in Chief
Professor Julie Abbou
Professor Solvita Pošeiko

Send all correspondence to cala@soas.ac.uk

Websites
https://glocal.soas.ac.uk
https://jomela.pub

Include your full contact information and a draft title. For empirical studies, the abstract should introduce the topic and methodology, the data to be analyzed, and a summary of the results. Abstracts for theoretical and methodological articles should introduce the theme, and the structure of the article. All abstracts must precisely state and focus on the works and debates of their (sub)fields. Upon acceptance, all necessary style information will be forwarded to authors.

Peer Review and Publication Procedure
All manuscripts will undergo double-blind peer review following the journal’s standard process. Note that The GLOCAL JOMELA stands against the unethical practice of pay to publish journals, and fully endorses free to publish academic work. At no point will the GLOCAL JOMELA accept any monetary contribution for publishing academic scholarly papers.

**Important Dates**

Deadline for abstract proposals: **April 20, 2021**
Invitation to submit a manuscript: **April 25, 2021**
Initial manuscript due: By **May 25 (negotiable), 2021**
Notification of review outcome: **June 25, 2021**
Final manuscripts due: **July 31, 2021**
Special issue publication **Late 2021**

Professor Julie Abbou
Professor Solvita Pošeiko