

Yale University

Workshop in Urban Ethnography

The Ethnographic Interpretation of Urban Life and Culture

Monday, October 7, 11:30am-1:20pm

210 Prospect Street, Room 203



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Summoned: Attachment and Religious Life in an Orthodox Jewish Neighborhood

The presentation outlines the current book project I am completing. Based on five years of ethnographic fieldwork in an Orthodox Jewish neighborhood in Los Angeles, I describe the “density” of social life in the neighborhood. I show how Orthodox men and women are constantly pulled into interaction with others—through organizations, through religious activity, and even through seemingly inconsequential moments that occur as they walk through the streets. To gain leverage on this question, I develop the metaphor of “summoning”: how people are both brought into interaction, and brought into being, as specific kinds of subjects in their everyday lives. Using ethnographic examples, I show how such density emerges and then use the Orthodox Jewish neighborhood as a strategic case in order to think through the processes through which people are constituted and reconstituted as specific kinds of subjects across social worlds.

Lunch Served - All Welcome

For upcoming speakers and bios, visit <http://www.yale.edu/sociology/UEP>.

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