

# Tomomi Yamaguchi

Department of Sociology & Anthropology  
Montana State University  
P.O. Box 172380  
Bozeman, MT 59717-  
(406) 994-7288 (work phone)  
(406) 994-3177 (fax)

## Academic Positions

August 2007- Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Montana State University  
Bozeman, MT

September 2004- Post-Doctoral Scholar, Center for East Asian Studies, University of  
June 2007 Chicago, Chicago, IL

May 2004 Visiting Scholar, Center for Japanese Studies  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

## Education

April 2004 Ph.D. in Anthropology  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
Dissertation: "Feminism Fractured: an ethnography of the  
dissolution and textual reinvention of a Japanese feminist group"  
Dissertation Chair: Dr. Jennifer Robertson  
Dissertation Committee: Dr. Conrad Kottak, Dr. Janet Hart,  
Dr. Anne Herrmann, Dr. Andrea Press

December 1994 M.A. in Anthropology  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

August 1992 M.A. in Communication Studies  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

August 1992 Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

March 1990 B.A. in Communication  
International Christian University, Mitaka, Tokyo, Japan

September 1988- One-year Exchange Student  
June 1989 University of California, Santa Barbara, CA

## Research and Teaching Interests

Anthropology of Japan, Feminist Anthropology, Historical Anthropology, Oral History, Ethnography, Anthropological Methods and Ethics, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Global Feminisms, Popular Culture and the Mass Media, Internet Culture, Minorities in Japan, Social Movements, Human Rights, Nationalism, Local and National Politics, New Religions in Japan, Education, Urban Anthropology

## Publications

- Forthcoming “Impartial Observation and Partial Participation” in Jennifer Robertson ed. *Politics and Pitfalls of Japan Ethnography*. Routledge
- 2007 “Impartial Observation and Partial Participation: Feminist Ethnography in Politically Charged Japan.” *Critical Asian Studies*, Volume 39, Number 4, December 2007
- 2007 (with Norma Field) “Gendered Labor Justice and the Law of Peace: Nakajima Michiko and the 15-woman lawsuit opposing dispatch of Japanese self-defense forces to Iraq.” *Japan Focus*, Oct 20, 2007.  
<http://japanfocus.org/products/details/2551>
- 2007 (in Japanese) “Backlash kara Knagaeru Feminism no Yukue” (*Backlash!* and the Future of Feminism in Japan) Roundtable discussion with Emi Koyama and Masami Saito. Ogiue, Chiki ed. *Natsukare!*, 2007
- 2006 (in Japanese) “Gender-free Ronso to Feminizumu no Ushinarawareta Juunen” [“The Debate over “Gender-Free” and the Lost Decade of Feminism”] in *Backlash!: Naze Gender-free wa tatakaretanoka? [Why was “gender-free” attacked?]* Tokyo: Sofusha, 2006
- 2006 “‘Loser Dogs’ and ‘Demon Hags’: Single Women in Japan and the Low Birth Rate” *Social Science Japan Journal*: Issue 9-1, April 2006
- 2006 (in Japanese) “Kansei ‘Gender’ ga Orite Kita!: ‘Gender,’ ‘gender-free’ no teigi wo meguru tōsō to gyōsei, joseigaku, josei undo.” [“The Government-manufactured Notion of ‘Gender’ Came Down to Us!: the struggle over the definitions of ‘gender’ and ‘gender-free,’ and the government, women’s studies and the women’s movement.”] *Gendai Seikyoiku Kenkyu Geppō (Monthly Report*

- Sex Education Today*), The Japanese Association for Sex Education, January 2006
- 2005 “Feminism, Timelines and History-Making” in Jennifer Robertson ed. *A Companion to the Anthropology of Japan*, London: Blackwell Publishers 2005
- 2004&2005 (in Japanese) “Gender-free wo Meguru Konran no Kongen [1] & [2]” [The Roots of the Confusion over “Gender-free” [1] & [2]], *We*, November 2004 and January 2005
- 2004 (in Japanese) “‘Kekkon’ no Teigi wo Meguru Tatakai: America Massachusetts-shû no Dôseikon Hanketsu” [“Fight about the Definition of ‘Marriage’: the Massachusetts gay marriage case”] in *Onna-tachi no 21-seiki*, No. 27, February 2004
- 1999 (in Japanese) “Media Kougi 1976-nen Ikou” [Media Protest after 1976] in *Kodo-suru Onna-tachi ga Hiraita Michi: Mexico kara New York made – [The Road Cultivated by the Women of Action: from Mexico to New York]*, ed. Kodo-suru Kai Kirokushu Henshu Inkai, Tokyo: Mirai-sha. (I was also a member of the Editorial Board).
- 1998 (in Japanese) “Nichibei Josei Jôhō Jijō” [“Women’s access to information in Japan and the U.S.”], *Nihon Fujin Mondai Konwakai Kaihō*, No.57.

## Translations

- 2007 Seyama, Noriko, Woolala, Satoko and Yamagami, Chieko. Documentary Film: *The U.S. Tour of 30 Years of Sisterhood*, 2007 (script translation and subtitle writing)
- 2006 Martin, Jane and Houston, Barbara. “Gender wo Kangaeru: Jane Martin, Barbara Houston interview (kikite Tomomi Yamaguchi).” [Thinking about Gender: interview with Jane Martin and Barbara Houston, interviewer Tomomi Yamaguchi.] and Houston, Barbara, “Gender-free Gainen ni Kansuru Mijikai Komento.” [A Short Comment on the notion of ‘Gender-Free.’] in *Backlash!: Naze Gender-free wa tatakaretanoka? [Why was gender-equality attacked?]* Tokyo: Sofusha, 2006
- 2004 Yamagami, Chieko and Seyama, Noriko. Documentary Film: *30 Years of Sisterhood: Women in the 1970s Women’s Liberation Movement in Japan*, 2004 (script translation and subtitle writing)

- 1995 Document 2: The Citizen's Movement Committee on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the End of the War – "A Petition to Oppose the 'Diet Resolution of Remorse and Apology' that Condemns Our Country's War in a One-sided Fashion," and Document 3: Editorial from *Sankei Shimbun*, June 7, 1995 – "A compromised proposal that lacks wisdom: We cannot judge history based on the resolution in the House of Representatives," in John W. Dower, "Japan Addresses its War Responsibility" ii: *The Journal of the International Institute*, Fall 1995, Vol.3, No.1.

### Conference Papers and Presentations

- March 2009 "(Un)making Sense of "Gender-free" and "Backlash" (also Panel Organizer for the panel, "Gender-free backlash on the internet and beyond: national politics and feminism in the 21<sup>st</sup> century Japan" Association for Asian Studies, Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (panel proposal accepted)
- November 2008 "Fight the Femi-Nazi!: anti-feminist backlash and "grass-roots" conservatism" (also Panel Co-organizer for the invited session from the Society for East Asian Anthropology, "Unpacking Japanese Conservatism: ethnographic engagement and the social, political, and emotional worlds of the Right" American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA
- March 2008 "Debating 'Gender-Free': the Gender Mixed Roll Call Controversy and Anti-feminist Backlash in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Japan" (also Panel Co-organizer for the panel, "Negotiating New Demands and New Divisions in Japan: Women and the Neo-Liberal/Conservative Turn") Association for Asian Studies, Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA
- December 2007 "Writing against Resistance: Fighting for Feminism at Home and Abroad" (also Panel Co-organizer for the panel, "Locating Anthropology in Japan, and Japan in Anthropology") American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, Washington DC
- June 2007 "Gender-free and the rise of Japanese Right-wing" (also Panel Organizer for the panel, "Tangled Threads of Backlash against Feminism in Contemporary Japan") National Women's Studies Association, Annual Meeting, St. Charles, IL
- June 2007 Discussant to the panel, "How does Backlash Occur?: The Interrelationship between the mass media and the public discourse

- on the web” Japan Mass Communication Studies Association, Spring Meeting, Kumamoto Gakuen University, Japan
- February 2007 “Conservative Religious Groups and Feminism: Current backlash in Japan,” Wednesday Community Luncheons, Divinity School, University of Chicago
- November 2006 “Impartial Observation and Partial Participation: Feminist Ethnography in Politically Charged Areas,” (also Panel Co-Organizer for the panel, “Politics and Pitfalls of Japan Ethnography: Reflexivity, Responsibility and Anthropological Ethics”) American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, San Jose, CA
- April 2006 “‘Backlash’ on Trial: Contestation over Feminism and Nationalism in Contemporary Japan,” (also Panel Organizer for the panel, “Nationalism Contested in Contemporary Japan”) The Association for Asian Studies, Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA
- February 2006 “The Women’s Liberation Movement in Japan” in The Japanese Law Society, University of Chicago, Lunch Lecture
- December 2005 “Backlash against feminism and our strategy to fight against it” in “Gender and Representation” Research Group, 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting, Ferris Women’s College, Yokohama, Japan
- December 2004 “What is ‘Gender Free’?” in “Thinking about the relationship among academic Women’s Studies, the government and the women’s movement via the notion of “Gender Free.” Gender Colloquium, University of Tokyo, Japan.
- December 2004 Guest lecture on feminist anthropology (for an introductory sociology course taught by Prof. Yuki Senda), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Japan.
- November 2004 Guest lecture on “Post-war Japanese feminism,” (for the course “Gender and Japanese History,” taught by Prof. Susan Burns), Department of History, University of Chicago.
- November 2004 “Japanese Feminism and the Politics of History-making,” Gender and Sexuality Studies Workshop, University of Chicago.
- June 2004 “Roundtable: The Uses of Ethnographic Cultural Study: Can Ethnography Respond to the Crises of Legitimacy and Representation?” Crossroads in Cultural Studies, Fifth International Conference, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

- June 2004 “The Meaning of ‘Telling the History of *Ribu*’ and Today’s *Ribu*/Feminism,” The Women’s Studies Association of Japan Annual Conference, Mirai Chûshin Rinsai Women’s Center, Tottori, Japan.
- April 2004 “The Emperor’s New Clothes: tailoring history by a Japanese feminist group,” The Pacific Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, San Francisco.
- March 2003 “Feminism as Chronology: the place of timelines (*nenpyô*) in women’s history,” The Association for Asian Studies, Annual Meeting, New York.
- September 2002 “Pioneers of the Women’s Movement: The United States,” “Feminism in the World” lecture series, STEP Toyonaka Gender Equality Center, Osaka, Japan.
- March 2001 “Fighting Words: Japanese feminist activists and media protests,” “Gender in China, Korea and Japan,” Workshop for K-12 teachers, Center for Japanese Studies, University of Michigan.
- June 2000 “Teaching Introductory Women’s Studies: Examples from Toyama University, Aichi Shukutoku University and the University of Michigan,” The Women’s Studies Association of Japan Spring Conference, University of Tokyo, Japan.
- April 2000 “Fighting Words: Japanese feminist activists and media protests,” Harvard Graduate Student Conference in Japanese Studies, Harvard University.
- August 1999 Facilitator, Workshop on feminist activism and academic feminism, Gender and Women’s Studies Forum at the National Women’s Education Center, Ranzan-chô, Saitama, Japan.
- July 1999 Panelist, Symposium, “What is Women’s Studies for?” Annual Women’s Studies Symposium by Nihon Joseigaku Kenkyûkai, Kyoto, Japan.
- October 1997 “Is Naomi Campbell Japanese? The Construction of the Ideal Body in Japanese Aesthetic Salons,” Rackham Graduate Student Conference, “Genders, Bodies, Borders,” University of Michigan.
- May 1997 “Nichi-bei Josei Joho Jijô” (“Women’s access to information in Japan and the U.S.”). in a symposium “Women and the Future of Information” by *Nihon Fujin Mondai Konwa-kai (Japan Women’s Forum)*.

- June 1996 “Japanese women as commodities: the images of Japanese women in the American mass media,” The Women’s Studies Association of Japan Spring Conference, Tokyo, Japan.
- April 1995 “Television as a site of cultural struggle: an ethnographic study of Japanese television viewers in the U.S.,” Graduate Student Conference, “Popular Culture: Mass, Lived, Contested,” Cornell University.

### **Professional Memberships**

American Anthropological Association  
 Association for Asian Studies  
 National Women’s Studies Association  
 Women’s Studies Association of Japan  
 Japan Mass Communication Studies Association

### **Awards and Honors**

- 2008 L&S Research Enhancement Award, Montana State University
- 2008 Suntory Cultural Foundation, Research Grant
- 2007 CLS Research and Creativity Grant, Montana State University
- 2007 Association for Asian Studies, Northeast Asia Council, “Japan-related Panels at National Conventions of Major Scholarly Disciplines” Grant (awarded as a panel organizer)
- 2004-2007 Post-doctoral Fellowship, Center for East Asian Studies, University of Chicago
- 2003 One-term Dissertation Grant, Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan (UM)
- 2003 Michigan Teaching Fellow, Rackham Graduate School and Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, UM
- 2001 Rackham Block Grant, UM
- 1998 Goodman Fund, Center for Japanese Studies, UM
- 1997-1998 Tokyo Women’s Foundation Research Grant
- 1997-1998 Dissertation Grant, Department of Anthropology, UM
- 1996 Endowment Award, Center for Japanese Studies, UM

- 1996 Summer Research Grant, Department of Anthropology, UM
- 1994-1995 Barbour Scholarship, UM
- 1992 Honorable Mention, Dorothy Guies McGuigan Prize, Women's Studies Program, UM
- 1992 Membership, Kappa Tau Alpha (National Honor Society in Journalism and Mass Communication)

### Research Experience

- 2008- Field Research and Discourse Analysis of the Internet Use by Japanese Feminist and Conservative groups.  
Conducted detailed analyses on on-line discussion on the web and listserv of a feminist group; organized a research group on the on-line debates on gender equality in Japan.
- 2004-current Archival and Field Research in Tokyo, Osaka, Yamaguchi and Fukui, Japan.  
Conducted archival and field research on grass-roots right wing organizations and religious groups; conducted background research in support of a lawsuit brought by a feminist director of a women's center in Osaka regarding right wing attacks against her and the center, with participant-observation of the organized support for the case. Conducted research on archival and internet resources on backlash against feminism.
- 2004 Research Assistant, Center for Japanese Studies, University of Michigan (UM)  
Translated articles by Prof. Shinobu Ikeda on the gendered representation in Japanese paintings in the Heian period, and on the reconstruction project of *Dejima* in the city of Nagasaki
- 2004 Transcriber, Medical School, UM  
Transcribed in-depth interview tapes for Prof. Michael Fetters' study, regarding Japanese doctors and the national elderly care insurance system
- 2003-2004 Research Assistant, Department of Anthropology, UM  
Assisted Prof. Jennifer Robertson with research on the history of eugenics in modern Japan, translated popular articles on eugenics of the pre-war period from Japanese to English, translated Prof. Robertson's article into Japanese.
- 2002 Research Assistant, Women's Studies Program, UM

Assisted Prof. Sidonie Smith with research on wartime sex slaves (“comfort women”) of the Japanese military, reviewed available literature and films on wartime “comfort women,” obtained information on current activism on the issue.

- 1996-1999      Dissertation Field Research in Tokyo, Japan  
Conducted participant observation, in-depth interviews and archival research on feminist activism in Japan from the 1970s to the present.
- 1991-1994      Research Assistant, Center for Japanese Studies and Women’s Studies Program, UM  
Assisted research of Prof. Andrea Press on sociology of Japanese and American women, reviewed bicultural relationships of Japanese and American women, translated Japanese documents into English.

### Teaching Experience

- Spring 2009      Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Montana State University (MSU)  
*Popular Culture In/Out of Japan*  
*Sex, Gender and Sexuality in Japan*
- Fall 2008      Department of Sociology and Anthropology, MSU  
*Introduction to Anthropology*  
*Social Issues in Contemporary Japan*
- Spring 2008      Department of Sociology and Anthropology, MSU  
*Popular Culture In/Out of Japan*  
*Sex, Gender and Sexuality in Japan*
- Fall 2007      Department of Sociology and Anthropology, MSU  
*Culture and Society*
- Spring 2007      Department of East Asian Languages and Associations/Gender and Sexuality Studies Program, University of Chicago (U of C)  
*Popular Culture In/Out of Japan*
- Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations/ Human Rights Program/Gender and Sexuality Studies Program, U of C  
*Social Movements in Postwar Japan* (with Professor Norma Field)
- Spring 2006      Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, U of C  
*Feminist Struggles in Japan II* (graduate-level seminar with Professor Norma Field)
- Winter 2006      Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, U of C  
*Feminist Struggles in Japan I* (with Professor Norma Field)

- Winter 2006 Teaching Assistant, Department of History / Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, U of C  
*East Asian Civilizations: Japan*
- Spring 2005 Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations / Department of Anthropology / Gender and Sexuality Studies Program, U of C  
*Reading Gender in the Anthropology of Japan*
- Winter 2005 Teaching Assistant, Department of History / Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, U of C  
*East Asian Civilizations - Japan*
- Fall 2000 Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Anthropology, UM  
*Ethnic Diversity in Japan*
- 1999-2000 Graduate Student Instructor, Women's Studies Program, UM  
*Introduction to Women's Studies*
- 1998-1999 Instructor, Division of International Relations, Japan College of Foreign Languages, Tokyo, Japan  
*Translation Skills, Comparative Cultures and TOEIC Preparation*
- 1996-1997 Instructor of Business English, Pan Nations Consulting Group, Tokyo, Japan
- 1996-1998 Instructor of English and Japanese to junior high and high school students, Waseda Juku, Ichishin Yobikô, Sôyû Gakuin, Tokyo, Japan
- Winter 1996 Grader, Anthropology Department, UM  
*Japanese Culture and Society*
- Fall 1995 Graduate Student Instructor, Communication Department, UM  
*Mass Communication in Contemporary Society*
- Summer 1994 Graduate Student Instructor, Communication Department, UM  
*Women in Popular Film and Television*
- 1993-1994 Graduate Student Instructor, Anthropology Department, UM  
*Introduction to Anthropology*
- 1998-1999 Teaching Assistant, Japanese Language, University of California, Santa Barbara  
*Third-year Japanese*

### **Other Professional Employment**

- 2002-2003 Translator and Mentor, School of Education, UM  
Translated English web pages into Japanese. Helped develop a web-based educational project on the world's rivers.
- 1998-1999 Media Editor, Women's Solidarity Foundation, Tokyo, Japan.  
Edited newsletters, created web pages, organized conferences and workshops, administered a grant program, wrote project proposals, and set up a new office.
- 1993-1994 Translator, Center for Japanese Studies, UM  
Translated English documents into Japanese.
- 1990 Editor, Foreign Language Dictionary Section, Sanseido Company, Ltd., Tokyo, Japan  
Edited Japanese-English and English-Japanese dictionaries.

### **Academic and Community Service**

- 2008- Councilor, Society for East Asian Anthropology, American Anthropological Association
- 2008- Women's Studies Committee, MSU
- 2008 Organizer, Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Commemorative Experience. Organized photo exhibitions at Bozeman Public Library and Renne Library at MSU; testimonial speeches by an A-bomb survivor and a chair of Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation at Bozeman Public Library, classes at MSU and other local schools. Coordinated a film series, "Scars and Legacies: Hiroshima Nagasaki, Apocalypse." Developed a website on the project.
- 2008 Search Committee (Japanese Literature Position), MSU
- 2007- Member of Celebrating Protest Website-Making Group, University of Chicago. Developing and Creating a website based on the Celebrating Protest Lecture Series held in Spring 2007. The site consists of the translated writings by various Japanese activists and scholars, podcasts, and other relevant information on the topic of contemporary social movements in Japan.
- 2007 Organizer, Japan at Chicago Lecture Series: Celebrating Protest, University of Chicago, March-May 2007  
Also coordinated a three-city tour (Chicago, Urbana-Champaign and New York) of *Rubber Tit* performance by a Japanese performance artist Tari Ito and jazz saxophonist MASA.

- 2007 Expert Statement to Osaka District Court for the lawsuit brought by a feminist activist, Mitsui Mariko, on her termination of employment as the director of a local women's center.
- 2005-2006 Organizer, A Feminist Documentary Film, *Thirty Years of Sisterhood* U.S. Screening Tour (Feb 2006)  
Coordinated screenings and panel discussions at the University of Chicago, University of Iowa, Grinnell College, Yale University, Boston College, LGBT Community Center in NYC, Bluestocking Books in NYC, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and Washington University in St. Louis.
- 2005 Organizer, Winter Quarter Friday Noon Film Series  
"Contemporary Ethnographic and Documentary Films on Japan"  
Center for East Asian Studies, University of Chicago
- 2003 Workshop Leader, Workshop for First-time Graduate Student Instructors, Center for Research on Learning and Teaching, UM
- 1999-2001 Graduate Student Representative to the Executive Committee, Women's Studies Program, UM
- 1998-2005 Board Member, Women's Solidarity Foundation, Tokyo, Japan
- 1998 Representative from *Gender to Hyogen no Kai* (The Gender and Expression Group), *Nihon Josei Kaigi* (Japan Women's Convention) in Amagasaki, Hyogo, Japan, 1998
- 1994-1995 Chair, International Graduate Student Instructor Committee, Departmental Steward and Steering Committee, Graduate Employees Organization, UM