

# Presentations by Emerging Scholars in the Demography of Singapore



13 October 2023

12PM - 1.30PM (SGT)

(ZOOM)

Session chaired by: Dr Senhu Wang  
(CFPR Steering Committee Member &  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology)**Register here:**[https://nus-sg.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_9eUM7InORPuh6o52v99sAg#/registration](https://nus-sg.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9eUM7InORPuh6o52v99sAg#/registration)

## HETEROGENEITY AMONG THE NEVER MARRIED IN A LOW-FERTILITY CONTEXT

This study explores heterogeneity among never-married individuals. Using data from the Perceptions of Singles on Marriage and Having Children study (N = 1,980), latent class analysis identified four subgroups: family conservatives (37%), conflicted conservatives (24%), family progressives (22%) and family sceptics (17%). The findings show distinct characteristics among subgroups and a strong gradient in marriage desires, highlighting the significance of recognising diversity among the never married in understanding marriage trends and patterns.

## TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT? IMPACT OF PANDEMIC RESIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENT ON WOMEN'S LIFE SATISFACTION AND SPOUSAL RELATIONSHIPS

The pandemic's impact on the family was intimately related to residential conditions. We surveyed 440 married women before, during and after the COVID-19 lockdown in Singapore to investigate whether residential crowding, co-residence with children or parents/in-laws and lack of access to private green spaces were associated with worsened life satisfaction and spousal relationships. Access to personal space was critical to personal and family wellbeing during the crisis, leaving us with important lessons for housing policy in dense urban settings.

## WORKING FROM HOME: LONGITUDINAL EVIDENCE ON WOMEN'S WORK-LIFE BALANCE, PRODUCTIVITY AND WORKPLACE RELATIONSHIPS

This study examines how working from home affects women's work-life balance, productivity and workplace relationships before, during and after COVID-19. Based on panel data from 440 married women spanning 2018 to 2022, the findings show that working from home generally improves work-life balance. However, the results also indicate potential drawbacks, including negative impacts on workplace relationships. These findings highlight that telework arrangements have varied outcomes that may be influenced by individual characteristics and life circumstances, underscoring the need for personalised approaches to improve work and family experiences.

## THE SPEAKERS

**Jolene  
Tan**



**Jolene Tan** is a PhD candidate in the School of Demography at the Australian National University. Her research focuses on family formation, gender relations and policies addressing work-family challenges.

**Jeremy  
Lim-Soh**



**Jeremy Lim-Soh** is a Research Fellow with the Centre for Ageing Research and Education at Duke-NUS Medical School. His research seeks to understand within-family differences in intergenerational exchanges such as grandparenting and caregiving, particularly in East Asian societies.