
Climate Refugees, Kinetic Elites, and the Struggle for Mobility Justice with Mimi Sheller



Lecture by Mimi Sheller

Monday 16 September 16:15 to 18:00
Taasingegade 3 Building 1441 room 112

Mobility justice is one of the crucial political and ethical issues of our day, when the entire world faces the urgent question of how to make the transition to more environmentally sustainable and socially just mobilities. All around the world urban, regional, and international governing bodies are grappling with a series of crises related to how we move, exacerbating the rise of reactionary ethnonationalist exclusion, securitization of international borders, and the overthrow of existing humanitarian protections of refugees, especially in the United States under the Trump administration.

Drawing on the “new mobilities paradigm” and the theorization of “mobility justice” (Sheller 2018) this talk connects debates over sustainable low-carbon transitions to wider issues of unequal global mobility regimes and the governance of differential mobilities. It shows the connections between the predicted growth of “climate refugees” and the environmental impacts of resource extraction to support the lifestyles of “kinetic elites.” I argue that a more robust and comprehensive theory of mobility justice can help us address the combined crises of climate change, unsustainable mobilities, and transnational migrations.

Everyone is welcome

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