Involuntary Consent: A Form of Structural Violence in Japan’s Adult Video Industry?

Akiko Takeyama

July 24 from 19:00 to 20:30
In Person Only/ No registration required/ Lecture in English
Room 301, 3F, Building 10, Sophia University

The popularity of pornography is predicated on the idea that those participating have given their consent. That is what allows the porn industry to dominate the media economy today. Looking at behind-the-scenes negotiations and abuses in Japan’s adult video industry, Takeyama challenges this pervasive notion with the idea of "involuntary consent." This phenomenon, she argues, is ubiquitous, not only in the porn industry, but in our everyday lives. Taking consent as her starting point, Takeyama illustrates the nuances of contract making and the legal structures, or lack thereof, that govern Japan's adult video and sex entertainment industries.

Akiko Takeyama is Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Director of the Center for East Asian Studies at the University of Kansas. She is the author of Staged Seduction: Selling Dreams in a Tokyo Host Club (Stanford University Press, 2016), which was shortlisted for the 2017 Michelle Rosaldo Book Prize. Her new book, Involuntary Consent: The Illusion of Choice, has just come out!

This event is organized by David H. Slater (Professor of Anthropology, Sophia University)