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Transnational Adoption
Special Issue Editors Toby Alice Volkman and Cindi Katz

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Lisa Cartwright is an associate professor of communication and science studies at the University of California, San Diego. She is the author of *Screening the Body: Tracing Medicine’s Visual Culture* (University of Minnesota Press), coauthor of *Practices of Looking: An Introduction to Visual Culture* (Oxford University Press), and coeditor of *The Visible Woman: Imaging Technologies, Gender, and Science* (NYU Press).

Claudia Fonseca is professor of anthropology at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Her research interests include family organization and gender relations in Brazilian working-class populations, with special emphasis on human rights issues and international adoption. Recent publications include articles in journals such as *Law and Society Review*, *Law and Policy*, and the *Adoption and Fostering Journal*, as well as two books: *Caminhos da Adoção* (Cortez) and *Família, fofoca e honra: Etnografia de relações de gênero e violência em grupos populares* (Editora da UFRGS).

Cindi Katz is professor of geography in environmental psychology and women’s studies at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Her work concerns social reproduction and the production of space, place, and nature; children and the environment; and the consequences of global economic restructuring for everyday life. She is the editor, with Janice Monk, of *Full Circles: Geographies of Gender over the Life Course* (Routledge) and the author of *Disintegrating Developments: Global Economic Restructuring and Children’s Everyday Lives* (forthcoming from University of Minnesota Press in 2003).

Eleana Kim is a Ph.D. candidate in anthropology at New York University. Her dissertation research focuses on transnational adoption from South Korea through an examination of the cultural work of an emerging transnational adult Korean adoptee “movement.”
**Toby Alice Volkman** is a visiting scholar in the Anthropology Department at New York University. She was formerly a program officer at the Ford Foundation, where she developed “Crossing Borders,” a worldwide initiative to revitalize area studies; she also served as director of the South and Southeast Asia Programs at the Social Science Research Council. She is the author of *Feasts of Honor: Ritual and Change in the Toraja Highlands* (University of Illinois Press) and is currently working on the culture of transnational adoption.

**Barbara Yngvesson** is professor of anthropology at Hampshire College. She is the author of *Virtuous Citizens, Disruptive Subjects: Order and Complaint in a New England Court* (Routledge) and coauthor of *Law and Community in Three American Towns* (Cornell University Press). Her current research focuses on movements of children between families and nations in adoption, the power of law in constituting these movements, and the hierarchies of belonging and exclusion (racial, familial, national) that they produce.
This special issue on transnational adoption focuses on matters that have received considerable public attention in recent years. The contributors to this issue, mostly professional anthropologists and adoptive parents, are intimate with the phenomenon and offer a fine-grained account of the complexities too often missing from conventional portrayals. Their claims for transformed relations of kinship stand in critical relation to norms of national patrimony and reflect both a commitment and a politics that has not been without controversy. In a subsequent issue of Social Text, we will publish additional essays in this area that will explore different lines of engagement and other dimensions for what could be considered national and transnational spaces of adoption.

—The Editors