Comparative, International, and Development Education Center

and

Center for Media, Culture and Education Seminar

Postsocialist International and Comparative Studies in Education

Speaker: Sunnie Rucker-Cheng

Respondent: Miglena Todorova

Online Via Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/661234725

"The Enduring Impact of School Segregation on African Americans and European Roma"

For both African Americans and European Roma, systematic marginalization has included a history of school segregation. The landmark cases of Brown v. Board of Education (1954) and D. H. and Others vs. The Czech Republic (2007) rendered segregated schools illegal, but they persist, in various forms, in both the United States and Central and Eastern Europe. The endurance of segregation reduces the possibility of equal access to education for many members of these communities, perpetuating disparities that have existed for generations. In this talk, I will discuss the uncanny similarities shared between African Americans and European Roma, focusing on contemporary mechanisms of school segregation and its effects. In addition, I will address civil society groups working for solutions to school segregation and discrimination against Roma and African Americans with the goal of ensuring diversified education.

Sunnie Rucker-Cheng is Assistant Professor of Slavic and East European Studies and Director of European Studies at University of Cincinnati. She is the co-author of Roma Rights and Civil Rights: A Transatlantic Comparison (Cambridge, 2020) and co-editor of Chinese Migrants in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Routledge, 2013).

Miglena Todorova is Assistant Professor in Social Justice Education, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto. She is the author of Unequal under Socialism: Race, Women and Transnationalism in Bulgaria, forthcoming Spring/Summer 2021, University of Toronto Press.

Thursday April 15th, 2021; 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM EST

Chair: Kathy Bickmore

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