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Maätita studies issues of motherhood, sexuality

Aldemaro Romero Jr.
CUNY Bernard M Baruch College

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While motherhood and sexuality have obviously been linked throughout human history, the view of motherhood that emerges from the research of Maätita is a more nuanced one. Maätita is an important feminist who introduces these areas of study in her sociology classes. In the 1960s, with the rise of the women's movement and the changing perception of feminism, evolving attitudes towards sexuality and feminism have also been discussed. This has led to some tensions that arise when a space that was originally designated as safe is no longer safe.

In the last few decades, the image of the single mother, and even the single bachelor, has evolved. The image of the mother, she said, is much more diverse than it was originally. The same, she added, can be about the relationships between a white, suburban woman stepmother to a much different relationship from an ethnic viewpoint.

"If you look at the question of what is called the third wave of the feminist movement, it seems to me it's not just of not just essentially, but also immigrations, status, sexual orientation and social class," Maätita explained. "If you look at the website for the National Organization for Women, a lot of it is geared toward young, college-educated women, who are concerned regarding issues of their own ethnic status, social status, sexual identity and sexual expression."

"Going back to the 1960s, with the rise of the gay rights movement, this has been a push to acknowledge sexuality as a primary identity, but also in terms of general social identity, which is a fact of these studies in her class at SIU.

Juxtaposed, significantly, is the push that even though there is still a lot of social stigma and that, even though there is still a lot of social stigma and pressure, there is also a push that even though there is still a lot of social stigma and pressure, there is also a push for the baccalaureate sociology and for the master’s degree in sociology.

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