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RESILIENCE



ART BY SALIMA SILAGON SAWAY-AGRAAN







RESHIENCE

A WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN DOING PHILOSOPHY



Dr. Rowena Azada-Palacios is an assistant professor of philosophy at Ateneo de Manila University and an associate lecturer of education at London Metropolitan University. She completed her PhD in Philosophy of Education at University College London, her MA in Citizenship Education at the Institute of Education in London, and her MA and AB degrees in Philosophy at Ateneo de Manila. Her research interest is in the intersections of education with political philosophy (especially anticolonial and decolonial political thought), continental philosophy, and theories of social justice. Her scholarly work has been published in the Journal of Philosophy of Education, Educational Philosophy and Theory, the London Review of Education and other journals; she has also written entries for the Encyclopedia of Diversity in Education and the Encyclopaedia of Teacher Education. She is currently preparing a book manuscript based on her PhD dissertation, on teaching national identity in postcolonial contexts. She is also involved in a number of interdisciplinary projects on social justice and education.



Dr. Élaina Gauthier Mamaril is a crip Filipinx mestiza philosopher working on agency and relational ontology. Her current work focuses on anti-eugenics in the context of how healthcare systems and public health policies are responding to the mass disabling event that is the result of the COVID-19 pandemic. She is interested in cripistemology, disability justice, Spinoza, feminist philosophy of disability, and Filipino philosophy.



Dr. Christine Tan is a Filipino-born philosopher whose main areas of expertise are Chinese and Comparative Philosophy in general, and Neo-Daoist philosophy in particular. She did her PhD at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. She is currently working on a book entitled "Freedom's Frailty: Self-Realization in the Neo-Daoist Philosophy of Guo Xiang's Zhuangzi." Dr. Tan has published extensively in Chinese philosophy, and her work has spanned a variety of epistemological themes from classical and medieval Chinese textual analysis to problem-driven treatments of traditionally Euro-centric issues such as freedom and autonomy. This includes published journal articles on Chinese Buddhism, Confucianism, and Daoism. Ultimately, her goal is to push the boundaries for how we understand selfhood, agency, and community from inter-cultural and truly global lenses.







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ROWENA AZADA PALACIOS

Reconceptualizing women's academic citizenship: Finding life-giving collegiality in a time of dying

Much of the discussion about citizenship in the field of education is in reference to civics and citizenship education for students. In the higher education literature, however, a small but important area of study with regard to citizenship is related to 'academic citizenship', which refers not to the civic attitudes and actions of students, but rather, the civic attitudes and actions of faculty members towards the university community and the wider public, enacted in activities labelled broadly as 'service and outreach'. Previous scholarly literature has noted the gendered nature of academic citizenship, with women bearing the brunt of academic care work in a context that deemphasizes it in favor of research and teaching, thereby creating an 'academic housework trap' for women. This paper draws from a case that serves as a counter-example. Beginning from the year 2020, a group of women academics from across the Philippines began collaborating online, exercising academic citizenship both through public-facing activities and activities that targeted the professional and well-being needs of the members of the group themselves. Drawing from both interviews with participants as well as autoethnographic narratives, this paper seeks to reimagine women's citizenship within academia as place-making and community cultivation: the fostering of a professional home ('tahanan'). Such a reimagination has implications for the way that academic citizenship is measured in the current dominant managerialist and rationalist models of higher education institutions.







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ELAINA GAUTHIER MAMARIL

Crip resilience and Filipino relational virtues

As the world continues to reckon with the COVID-19 pandemic, resilience is in high demand. I argue that we need to turn to disabled communities, and specifically to crip and mad wisdom when it comes to thinking about living through uncertain and difficult times. Specifically, cripistemology has much to say on agency and power understood of non-linear, relational (un)progress. In other words, crip survival strategies, aka crip resilience, fundamentally resist the "cure" narrative or the horizon of compulsory ablebodiedness. This is not to say that crip philosophy is necessarily pessimistic or nihilistic; rather, it is about reframing what hope, joy, and thriving look like when a "better world" is not promised. This is the kind of resilience I will present in dialogue with the Filipino concept of lakas-ng- loób.

Although lakas-ng-loób often evokes fatalism and the notion of (self)sacrifice, I argue that it both informs and challenges notions of crip resilience. Using the work of Jeremiah Reyes and Leah-Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha, I expand my argument from A Crip Reading of Filipino Philosophy to include more reflections on how much the intersection between crip philosophy and Filipino relational ontology both opens possibilities and creates noteworthy tensions. I analyse the concentric relational circles invoked by the kagandahang-loób/utang-na-loób and pakikiramdam/hiya conceptual pairs through the lens of lakas-ng-loób to produce, in solidarity with Tuck and Yang, an "ethics of incommensurability". Because resilience is about holding that which is incommensurable in our finite bodyminds and refusing to let it destroy us.







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CHRISTINE TAN

"Freedom In": A Daoist Response to Isaiah Berlin

In his seminal essay "Two Concepts of Liberty," Isaiah Berlin categorized freedom into positive or negative liberty: "freedom to" or "freedom from." He provided a powerful critique against the metaphysical nature of positive liberty, arguing that it is oppressive, in contrast to the conception of negative freedom, defined as lack of interference. Meanwhile, conversations around the concept of freedom in Daoist philosophy often hover around categorizing it as either positive liberty in its spiritual form—what Berlin calls the "retreat to the inner citadel"—or a type of negative liberty, being free from society's interference.

In this work, I argue that it may instead be more fruitful to explore the Chinese commentarial tradition for two reasons: (1) the problem of Berlin's liberalist framework is problematic due to its inherently Anglo-European context, and concurrently, (2) there have been rich discussions of the sociopolitical aspects of the Zhuangzi 莊子, especially by its leading Chinese commentator GUO Xiang 郭象, which have not been accounted for. Drawing from GUO Xiang, I render a reading of the concept of "free and easy wandering" (xiaoyao 逍遙) in the Zhuangzi as it directly relates to self- realization (zide 自得) and having no heart-mind (wuxin 無心), which makes for a more holistic understanding of freedom as self-determination. In particular, I argue that freedom in the philosophy of the Zhuangzi can be more aptly understood as "freedom in," which is more viable and just than both "freedom to" and "freedom from."



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