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“Youth” in Contemporary China and intra-East Asia Cultural Transnationalism

In this paper, my aim is tease out what is ‘Youth’ in Chinese settings and how dose the meaning of ‘youth’ fabricated, coagulated, transformed, volatilized, and continuously embedded on (trans)national framework since its appearance.

On the one hand, what I want to highlight are lacunas of sensitivities to contexts and regional specificities, which have been under-explored, have become more visible and conspicuous in recent years in youth (culture) studies. The regional geopolitical cultural semicenters in the Asia area, i.e., Japan, Seoul, Hong Kong and Taiwan have disappeared in a all-pervasive discourses of globalizaiton/westernization. On the other hand, more often than not what is missing form youth studies is how people sophisticatedly embrace, localize, negotiate, accommodate and appropriate the dominant social values, Western ideas and practice into their own understanding of notions in homogenous ways in various geographical space.