This lecture presents findings from Andre Schmid's recently published monograph of the same title. It will examine how North Korean Party-state emphasis on ideological and cultural change in pursuit of socialist goals ironically led to the depoliticization of two of its key revolutionary categories - class and gender. This took place even as the Party-state continued to call loudly for heightened proletarian consciousness and celebrated their juridical implementation of gender equality. This depoliticization was fundamental to the consolidation of the Party-state's power and the rise of Kim Il Sung. It also shows that north Korean ideology was neither as uniform or unified as is often claimed both inside and outside the country.