

CEAS Author Talks

East Asia by the Book

*Sold People:
Traffickers and Family Life in North China*

By *Johanna S. Ransmeier*

A robust trade in human lives thrived throughout North China during the late Qing and Republican periods. Whether to acquire servants, slaves, concubines, or children—or dispose of unwanted household members—families at all levels of society addressed various domestic needs by participating in this market. ‘Sold People’ brings into focus the complicit dynamic of human trafficking, including the social and legal networks that sustained it. Johanna Ransmeier reveals the extent to which the structure of the Chinese family not only influenced but encouraged the buying and selling of men, women, and children.

Ransmeier draws from untapped archival sources to recreate the lived experience of human trafficking in turn-of-the-century North China. Not always a measure of last resort reserved for times of extreme hardship, the sale of people was a commonplace transaction that built and restructured families as often as it broke them apart.

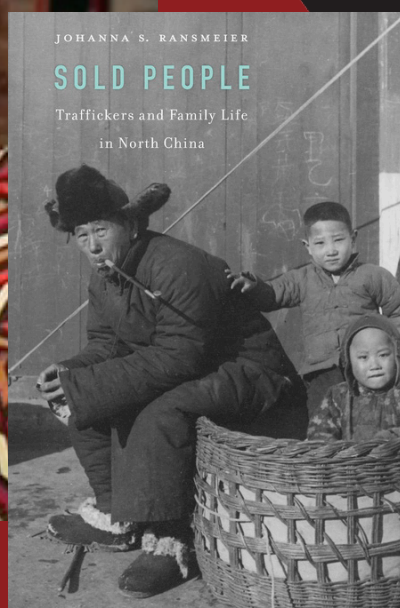
MONDAY

MAY 8

6:00PM

Discussant:

Wenguang Huang



SEMINARY CO-OP
5751 S WOODLAWN AVE
CHICAGO, IL 60637

SEMINARY
CO-OP
BOOKSTORE



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

CENTER FOR EAST ASIAN STUDIES

UCHICAGO Urban