



Digitalization and Gender Inequality in Family Life

by Prof. Yang HU

Associate Professor in Sociology
UCL Social Research Institute
University College London



HKT

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From family chat groups to online grocery shopping and from baby monitors to online banking, digitalization is rapidly changing how we “do family” on a daily basis. What are the implications of digitalization for gender (in)equality and power in family life? In this talk, I bring together findings from two interlinked studies to address this question. The first study examines the gender division of labour in family- and work-related digital communication, as well as how individual digital literacy and macro-societal digital diffusion matter for the division. The second study examines how partners’ use of online banking shapes the ways in which they manage money and make major financial decisions. I demonstrate how digital technologies both empower their users and entail new gendered burdens of digital labour in family life. In doing so, I propose a conceptual model for understanding (gender) inequality in digitalized family life that accounts for the interplay between labour inputs and power outputs.



Yang HU is Associate Professor in Sociology at UCL Social Research Institute, University College London, where he also directs the MSc/MA programs in Sociology. Yang is a member of the UK 2029 Research Excellence Framework (REF) Sub-Panel for Sociology. He is Co-director of the Work and Family Researchers Network (WFRN) Early Career Fellowship Program. Yang’s research examines family and work changes and inequalities in a global context. His recent research has been published in journals such as *Nature Human Behaviour*, *Gender & Society*, *European Sociological Review*, and *Human Relations*.