Women and Public Space in Turkey: Gender, Modernity and the Urban Experience

How and in what ways do women participate in public life? What are the narratives that shape women’s experience of public space? In this lecture, based on her newly published book, feminist sociologist Selda Tuncer explores women’s everyday experiences of public space as well as how women interpret their experiences in modern Turkey. By focusing on the period between 1950 and 1980, when the Turkish modernization process had reached a mature phase, she provides a comprehensive historical understanding of women’s lives and their experiences of public space. She analyses not only women’s relationship with public space, but also gendered processes of nation-building, socio-cultural transformations, and the crucial connections between gender, modernity and the urban experience in the non-Western context.

Selda Tuncer is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Yüzüncü Yıl University, Van. She worked at the Middle East Technical University, where she also completed her PhD. Her dissertation on Women’s Experience of Everyday Urban Public Space in Ankara between 1950s and 1980s was awarded the Young Social Scientists Prize by the Turkish Social Sciences Association. She has published in both Turkish and English on issues relating to gender and space relations, urban culture and everyday life in Turkey.

Admission only after registration to event@sri.org.tr!