
Sinem Esengen

PhD Student in Sociology at The Ohio State University
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EDUCATION

The Ohio State University Sociology,

Specialization in Demography

Ph.D. (2022-) M.A. 2023

Middle East Technical University, Sociology,

Minor in History of Philosophy

BSc 2022

Middle East Technical University, Gender and Women's Studies

MSc 2021

Maastricht University, Economics and Business Economics

Specialization in Emerging Markets

BSc 2018

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Sexual and Reproductive Health: contraception, abortion, female genital cutting

Gender: Feminist theory and methodology, feminist resistance, local feminisms

Political economy of health: Healthcare spending, care economy, out-of-pocket costs

Regional focus: Middle East and North Africa, Central and North America

PUBLICATIONS

Esengen, S. (2024). 'We had that abortion together': abortion networks and access to il/legal abortions in Turkey. *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 26(9), 1119–1133.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13691058.2023.2301410>

*Op-ed on GazeteDuvar "Kürtaja erişimde alternatif yöntem arayışı [Searching for alternative methods to access abortion]." March 13, 2024.

*Quoted in Bianet "Kürtaj için feminist dayanışma ağları oluşturulmalı." [Feminist solidarity networks should be created for abortion] bianet. March 6, 2024.

*Op-ed on GazeteDuvar: "Kürtaj olmak kimin hakkı, kimin kararı? [Whose right is it to have an abortion, whose decision is it?]." March 5, 2024.

*Interviewed by muzir.org. "Medikal imkanlar çeşitli ama kürtaj olmak halen zor" [Medical opportunities are diverse, but getting an abortion is still difficult.]. Muzir.org, February 16, 2024.

UNDER REVIEW

Esengen, S. "Female Circumcision in Southern Kurdistan: Testing Bargaining within the Patriarchy"

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Esengen, S., Kammi K. Schmeer, Anielka Medina. "An Evaluation Of A Women-Centered Reproductive Healthcare Approach: The Lily Project, Nicaragua."

Esengen, S. Katherine Roos. “Barriers To DIY Medicine: A Feminist Analysis Of Practices Of And Pushback Against IUD Self-Removal”
Esengen, S. “Gendered Dynamics Of Solidarity And Resistance Among Displaced Turkish And Kurdish Migrants In Europe”
Esengen, S. “Trends Of Asylum Seekers From Turkey To Europe”

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, & GRANTS

2024 FREE Center Grant for Feminist Scholarship, The Ohio State University
2024 Ray Travel Award, CGS The Ohio State University
2022 Fulbright Scholarship, The Ohio State University
2022 William Form and Joan Huber Fellowship, The Ohio State University
2021 Course Performance Award, Middle East Technical University
2018 Maastricht Research Based Learning (MaRBLE) Graduate, Maastricht University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Barriers to DIY medicine: A feminist analysis of practices of and pushback against IUD self-removal” With Katherine Roos, National Women’s Studies Association 2024 Annual Conference, Detroit, Michigan, U.S., November 14-17, 2024.
“Female Circumcision in Southern Kurdistan: Testing Bargaining within the Patriarchy”, presented at Population Association America 2024 Annual Conference, April 17-20, 2024. Columbus, OH. & Eastern Sociological Association 2024 Annual Conference, Washington D.C., U.S.A., 2024 & Bowling Green State University & Ohio State University Graduate Conference, Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A.
“We had that abortion together”: Social Networks and Access to Il/legal Abortions in Turkey”, American Sociological Association (ASA) 2023 Annual Conference, Medical Sociology Roundtables, Philadelphia, U.S.A.
“Asylum Applications from Turkey to Europe,” Poster, Midwest Sociological Society (MSS) 2023 Annual Conference.

TEACHING

SOCIOLOG 3597.01 - *World Problems in a Global Context* (SU24, AU24, SP25, SU25)

OUTREACH, MEDIA, PUBLIC

Op-eds on Gender politics, women’s health, and rights: Regular Contributor to [Jineps](#), founder & regular contributor at feminist magazine [Ararenk Fanzin](#).

Invited talk at Youtube channel Aylak Damla on ‘Gender Bias in Medicine | Scandals, Hysteria, Menstruation, Vaginitis, Reproductive Justice’. [Original title in Turkish: “*Tıbbın Cinsiyeti | Skandallar, Histeri, Regl, Vajinismus, Üreme Adaleti w/ Sinem Esengen*”]
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uEyDPrlHZVg&t=748sv>

MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE

Department, and community service

Institute of Population Research (IPR)

R Working Group: Co-organizer (2025-)

Institute of Population Research Graduate Student Organization: Member (2022 -)

Department of Sociology

Sociology of Population(SocPOP) working group: Co-organizer (2024-25)

Sociology Department International Student Organization: Member (2024-)

Other community

Buckeye Brighters: Fulbright Student/Scholar Organization: President (2023), Marketing and Outreach Officer (2022), Member (2022-)

Association memberships

American Sociological Association (Medical Sociology, Population, Global and Transnational Sociology sections)

Population Association of America

Eastern Sociological Association

OTHER

Languages: Turkish (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Intermediate), German (basic)

Software: STATA, SPSS, Eviews, MAXQDA, NVIVO, Mortpak, R