



## re:work Lecture 2019

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**Carola Lentz**

### **Family, Work and Social Mobility: Perspectives from Ghana**

Families have played a key role in the comprehensive socio-economic transformations experienced by societies of the Global South since the Second World War. A central axis of these transformations has been work: changes to work processes and employment relations, the development of new fields of activity with new skills profiles as well as the spatial reorganisation of production and reproduction. These changes create new conditions for individual life courses. They offer opportunities for social mobility, but also bring with them the risk of social marginalisation and relegation. However, individual education and work trajectories are intermeshed with family relationships. As studies of family history in the Global North have shown, families can act both as a resource and a restraint in the transformation of work and social advancement. With reference to examples from Northern Ghana, the lecture explores the dynamics of social mobility and work within the framework of individual time, family time and historical time (T. Hareven). The lecture's key argument is that intractable family dynamics mediate between individual life courses and larger societal developments.

The lecture will be held in German on:

**Wednesday, 9 January 2019, 6 p.m.**  
**Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin**  
**IGK Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History**  
**Georgenstraße 23, 6th Floor, 10117 Berlin**

Please RSVP at your earliest convenience to  
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For additional information, please refer to <http://rework.hu-berlin.de>



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