## SERIES FOREWORD

The politics of marriage (and divorce) is an often-used strategic tool in various social, cultural, economic, and political identity projects as well as in symbolic conflicts among ethnic, national, or religious communities. Despite having multiple strategic applicabilities, pervasiveness in everyday life, and huge significance in performing and managing identities, the politics of marriage is surprisingly underrepresented both in the international book publishing market and in the social sciences.

The Politics of Marriage and Gender: Global Issues in Local Contexts is a series from Rutgers University Press examining the politics of marriage as a phenomenon embedded in and intensely interacting with much broader social, cultural, economic, and political processes and practices such as globalization; transnationalization; international migration; human trafficking; vertical social mobility; the creation of symbolic boundaries among ethnic populations, nations, religious denominations, or classes; family formation; or struggles for women's and children's rights. The series primarily aims to analyze practices, ideologies, and interpretations related to the politics of marriage and to outline the dynamics and diversity of relatedness—interplay and interdependence, for instance—between the politics of marriage and the broader processes and practices mentioned above. In other words, most books in the series devote special attention to how the politics of marriage and these processes and practices mutually shape and explain each other.

The series concentrates on, among other things, the complex relationships between the politics of marriage and gender, ethnic, national, religious, racial, and class identities globally and examines how these relationships contribute to the development and management of social, cultural, and political differences, inequalities, and conflicts.

The series seeks to publish single-authored books and edited volumes that develop a gap-filling and thought-provoking critical perspective, that are well balanced between a high degree of theoretical sophistication and empirical richness and that cross or rethink disciplinary, methodological, or theoretical boundaries. The thematic scope of the series is intentionally left broad to encourage creative submissions that fit within the perspectives outlined above.

Among the potential topics closely connected with the problem sensitivity of the series are "honor"-based violence; arranged (forced, child, etc.) marriage; transnational marriage markets, migration, and brokerage; intersections of marriage and religion/class/race; the politics of agency and power within marriage; reconfiguration of family: same-sex marriage/union; the politics of love, intimacy, and desire; marriage and multicultural families; the (religious, legal, etc.) politics of divorce; the causes, forms, and consequences of polygamy in contemporary societies; sport marriage; and refusing marriage.

Transnational Marriage and Partner Migration is a fascinating account of how intersectional relationships among marriage, transnational migration, security, citizenship, and rights have developed in various countries across the globe as well as how and why these relationships may play a prominent role in governmental-level policy- and decision-making processes. Offering a global comparative perspective, the volume seeks answers for questions such as howin public political discourses as well as in policy- and lawmaking contexts transnational marriage migration is constructed and framed as a risky process having potential security dangers; as a consequence, who should be controlled, and made the object of surveillance, and to what extent and in which ways; and finally, how the changing conceptualizations of potential security dangers or risks associated with transnational marriage and partner migration affect actual policies as well as rights and access to citizenship. The chapters reveal in a convincing and insightful way how diverse the repertoire of strategies, techniques, and tactics used in the politicization of marriage and partner migration is and critically examine the underlying political and bureaucratic concerns over emotions, intimacies, attachments, and senses of belonging.

> Péter Berta University College London School of Slavonic and East European Studies

## Transnational Marriage and Partner Migration