

First published 2012

by Routledge

2 Park Square, Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4RN

Simultaneously published in the USA and Canada

by Routledge

711 Third Avenue, New York, NY10017

Routledge is an imprint of the Taylor & Francis Group, an informa business

First issued in paperback 2014

© 2012 Xiaowei Zang

The right of Xiaowei Zang to be identified as author of this work has been asserted by him in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or reproduced or utilized in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publishers.

Trademark notice: Product or corporate names may be trademarks or registered trademarks, and are used only for identification and explanation without intent to infringe.

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Zang, Xiaowei.

Islam, family life, and gender inequality in urban China/Xiaowei Zang.

p. cm. – (Routledge studies on ethnicity in Asia; 1)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

1. Uighur (Turkic people)–China–Ürümqi–Social conditions.

2. Muslims–China–Ürümqi–Social conditions. 3. Muslim women–

China–Ürümqi–Social conditions. 4. Minorities–China–Social

conditions. 5. Discrimination–China. I. Title.

DS731.U4Z36 2011

305.89'43230516–dc23

2011019811

ISBN: 978-0-415-68366-1 (hbk)

ISBN: 978-1-138-01707-8 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-203-18097-6 (cbk)

Typeset in Times

by Werset Ltd, Boldon, Tyne and Wear

Contents

<i>List of figures and tables</i>	viii
<i>Preface</i>	x
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiv
1 Between Islamic affiliation and gender inequality	1
<i>Five aspects of gender inequality</i>	2
<i>Possible mechanisms of sexual stratification</i>	2
<i>Religiosity as a mechanism of gender inequality</i>	6
<i>Family processes as a mechanism of gender inequality</i>	10
<i>Changes and persistence in family life among Uyghurs</i>	11
<i>How do family processes affect gender inequality?</i>	15
<i>Do family processes matter?</i>	21
2 Historical contexts and research design	24
<i>Xinjiang and Ürümqi</i>	24
<i>The demographic history of Uyghurs and Han Chinese in Xinjiang</i>	27
<i>Islam in Xinjiang</i>	33
<i>Fieldwork in Ürümqi</i>	36
<i>Analytic methods</i>	39
<i>Dependent variables</i>	39
<i>Independent variables</i>	40
3 A hard choice: to work or not to work?	48
<i>Gender gaps in employment in China</i>	50
<i>Muslim women's labour supply</i>	51
<i>Field observations in Ürümqi</i>	53
<i>Why are women less likely than men to be employed?</i>	57
<i>Is religion related to female labour-force participation?</i>	62
<i>Religiosity and Muslim women's labour supply</i>	64

vi Contents

- Does religiosity affect gender inequality in work in Ürümchi?* 64
Do family processes affect women's market behaviour? 68
Family processes and gender inequality in employment in Ürümchi 71
Supplementary analyses 75
- 4 Why do Uyghur men earn more than Uyghur women?** 77
The gender earnings gap in China 78
Gender earnings gaps among Uyghurs 79
Why do women earn less than men? 81
Is religious affiliation related to earnings? 85
Religiosity and gender inequality in income 85
Religiosity and Uyghur women's earnings 87
Family processes as a determinant of earnings 89
Family processes and gender inequality in income 91
Supplementary analyses 93
- 5 Who does household chores?** 95
Why are gendered divisions of household chores important? 95
How are household tasks measured? 97
Gender inequality in housework among Uyghurs 99
How can gendered divisions of household chores be explained? 106
Religiosity and the allocation of household chores 109
Religiosity and housework among Uyghur couples 110
Family processes and housework among Uyghurs 115
Supplementary analyses 120
- 6 Who manages the household?** 122
Why must household management be studied? 123
How is household management measured? 124
Gender and household management 125
The gendered division of household management in Ürümchi 126
Possible accounts of the gendered division of household management 134
Religiosity and household management 135
Family processes and household management 140
Supplementary analyses 144
- 7 Who's the boss?** 146
What is family power? 146
The distribution of family power among Uyghurs 148

<i>Relative resources and gender inequality in domestic power</i>	152
<i>Gender ideology and family power</i>	156
<i>Islamic affiliation and family power</i>	157
<i>Religiosity and family power in Ürümqi</i>	158
<i>Family work and spousal power</i>	161
<i>Family processes and domestic power</i>	165
<i>Supplementary analyses</i>	169
8 All in the family	172
<i>Gender inequalities and parities among Uyghurs</i>	172
<i>Why is religiosity a weak mechanism of gender inequality?</i>	174
<i>Why are family processes a major mechanism of gender inequality?</i>	177
<i>Policy implications</i>	179
<i>Notes</i>	181
<i>References</i>	209
<i>Index</i>	229

Figures and tables

Figures

2.1	The Ürümchi Railway Station	26
2.2	Uyghur population growth, 1761–2003 (1,000)	28
2.3	Uyghur men in Ürümchi	29
2.4	Population distribution of Uyghurs and Han Chinese in Xinjiang (%)	30
2.5	Population distribution of Uyghurs and Han Chinese in Ürümchi (%)	32
2.6	Uyghur costumes	33
2.7	Friday afternoon prayers by Uyghur men	34
2.8	Uyghur women during Friday afternoon prayers	46
3.1	A Uyghur food stall in Ürümchi	53
3.2	Uyghur women vendors in Ürümchi	54

Tables

1.1	Uyghur-Han comparisons of socio-demographic characteristics	3
1.2	Gender inequalities in Muslim countries and non-Muslim countries	4
2.1	Population distribution of ethnic groups in Xinjiang (1,000)	31
2.2	Sampled Ürümchi streets, 2007	37
2.3	Sample selection for data analysis	38
2.4	Control variables	41
2.5	Uyghur religiosity in Ürümchi (%)	45
2.6	Family variables	47
3.1	Female to male economic activity rates by regions: 1970–2005 (%)	52
3.2	Gender differences in full-time employment in Ürümchi (%)	56
3.3	Bivariate analyses of religiosity and employment (%)	65
3.4	Multivariate analyses of religiosity and gender gaps in work	67
3.5	Family processes and full-time employment (%)	73

3.6	Multivariate analyses of family processes and gender gaps in work	74
3.7	Comparisons of logistic regression models of employment	76
4.1	Ratios of estimated female to male earned income by regions (%)	79
4.2	Gender differences in mean gross monthly income (¥)	80
4.3	Religiosity and income (¥ per month)	87
4.4	Religiosity and gender gaps in income in Ürümchi	88
4.5	Family processes and gender gaps in mean monthly income (¥)	91
4.6	Family processes and gender gaps in earnings	92
4.7	Comparisons of OLS models of earnings	93
5.1	Nonparametric analyses of housework allocation	105
5.2	Allocation of household chores among Uyghur families (%)	107
5.3	Religiosity and the allocation of household chores (%)	111
5.4	Multivariate analyses of religiosity and housework allocation	113
5.5	Family processes and the allocation of household chores (%)	116
5.6	Multivariate analyses of family processes and housework allocation	118
5.7	Comparisons of multinomial models of household chores	120
6.1	Nonparametric analyses of household management	132
6.2	Background characteristics and household management (%)	133
6.3	Religiosity and the distribution of household management	137
6.4	Multivariate analyses of religiosity and household management	139
6.5	Family processes and the distribution of household management (%)	141
6.6	Multivariate analyses of family processes and household management	143
6.7	Comparing multinomial models of household management	144
7.1	Nonparametric tests of power and authority	152
7.2	Background characteristics and the distribution of family power (%)	155
7.3	Religiosity and the distribution of family power (%)	159
7.4	Multivariate analyses of religiosity and family power	162
7.5	Family processes and the distribution of family power (%)	167
7.6	Multivariate analyses of family processes and family power	170
7.7	Comparing multinomial logistic regression models of family power	171