Propositions
Attached to the thesis

Youth, Work and Lifestyles in an Indonesian Industrial Town

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1. While the transition to adulthood is characterised by gender and class differences which are culturally delineated, young men and women define themselves in relation to both their lives in the present and their aspirations for the future. This thesis.

2. Education, though carrying with it a great deal of cultural capital, in and by itself, has a limited capacity to facilitate access to work, economic benefits and social mobility for young people, even in countries like Indonesia which are currently experiencing rapid economic growth. This thesis.

3. The tensions between continuing globalisation on the one hand, and the realities of administrative and political decentralisation in post-Suharto Indonesia, create new in- and exclusions in the labour market based on age, class, ethnicity, gender and education level. This thesis.

4. To gain a more comprehensive understanding of how young men and women navigate their job search as well as periods of un(der)employment, a gendered, relational approach is needed, which takes into account the experiences of both young men and women. This thesis.

5. The spheres of education, work and marriage, rather than being separate stages, are connected and often overlap in young people’s lives, so that education and employment status may affect gender relations, dating patterns and choice of marriage partners among young men and women. This thesis.

6. There is no one-size fits all solution for problems of educated youth unemployment.

7. Attention to consumption, youth cultures, information and communication technologies and new ways of organising and networking, can provide valuable insights in understanding young people’s responses to educated underemployment.

8. In urban Indonesia, public space and institutions are increasingly giving way to privately owned shops, malls, hotels, offices and colleges.

9. While economic uncertainty and precarity are part of daily life of many Indonesians, their responses to these conditions cannot be explained within a framework of neoliberal capitalism alone.

10. In this increasingly globalising world, there is a need for multidisciplinary and comparative social science research, which surpasses national boundaries.

11. Writing propositions in the tropics in a room without air conditioning is a very uncomfortable business.