

Global Diversities

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Over the past decade, the concept of ‘diversity’ has gained a leading place in academic thought, business practice, politics and public policy across the world. However, local conditions and meanings of ‘diversity’ are highly dissimilar and changing. For these reasons, deeper and more comparative understandings of pertinent concepts, processes and phenomena are in great demand. This series will examine multiple forms and configurations of diversity, how these have been conceived, imagined, and represented, how they have been or could be regulated or governed, how different processes of inter-ethnic or inter-religious encounter unfold, how conflicts arise and how political solutions are negotiated and practiced, and what truly convivial societies might actually look like. By comparatively examining a range of conditions, processes and cases revealing the contemporary meanings and dynamics of ‘diversity’, this series will be a key resource for students and professional social scientists. It will represent a landmark within a field that has become, and will continue to be, one of the foremost topics of global concern throughout the twenty-first century. Reflecting this multi-disciplinary field, the series will include works from Anthropology, Political Science, Sociology, Law, Geography and Religious Studies. While drawing on an international field of scholarship, the series will include works by current and former staff members, by visiting fellows and from events of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. Relevant manuscripts submitted from outside the Max Planck Institute network will also be considered.

More information about this series at
<http://www.springer.com/series/15009>

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Socialising with Diversity

Relational Diversity through a Superdiversity Lens

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For Amalia and Fritz

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This book and its findings have only become possible with the help of those people who took the time to talk to me about their networks. Those who did not mind a curious researcher tagging along to various social events that ranged from intimately private to openly public. Respondents and interlocutors who made it possible for me to think about how their personal networks mattered within larger patterns of urban diversity. This book is about those larger and abstract patterns and given its length but also like any book of its type—only a partial account. As I continue to my work with the more qualitative data collected as part of my fieldwork, I hope to bring out more of the direct voices of those with whom I had the opportunity to talk about diversity in London and Toronto and about being social in these two cities. I encourage every reader to consult the related publications list on the book's website to find updated references. I am also tremendously thankful to those who supported me intellectually and socially in the process of doing fieldwork and writing up—particular thanks goes to those who have read earlier drafts of this manuscript, mentors, and friends alike. The research for this book was made possible through a fellowship at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. The book manuscript was completed whilst I was a Max Weber Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the European University Institute.

CONTENTS

| | | |
|----------|---|------------|
| 1 | Introduction — Socialising with Diversity | 1 |
| 2 | Exploring Superdiversity and Relational Diversity | 15 |
| 3 | How and Where to Point a Superdiversity Lens? | 39 |
| 4 | Visualising Relational Diversity — Finding Difference in Similarity | 65 |
| 5 | Disentangling Multidimensional Homophily and Describing Migrant Networks in Contexts of Superdiversity | 93 |
| 6 | Concluding Socialising with Diversity | 117 |
| | Index | 125 |

LIST OF FIGURES

| | | |
|----------|---|-----|
| Fig. 1.1 | Share of migrants in the top 20 most numerous origin groups compared to those origin groups with fewer migrants | 7 |
| Fig. 1.2 | QR code to book website | 12 |
| Fig. 4.1 | Crossover between three aspects of migration trajectories | 66 |
| Fig. 4.2 | Legal status trajectories within right to stay and work category | 69 |
| Fig. 4.3 | Direction of occupational trajectories | 71 |
| Fig. 4.4 | Mean homophily values | 79 |
| Fig. 4.5 | Boxplots for IQV distribution | 82 |
| Fig. 4.6 | The relationship between predicted homophily and IQV | 84 |
| Fig. 4.7 | Heatmap of multidimensional homophily patterns | 87 |
| Fig. 4.8 | Homophily patterns restricted to a single aspect (share of migrants in networks) | 88 |
| Fig. 5.1 | Heatmap of homophily profile of clusters (based on cluster medians) | 99 |
| Fig. 5.2 | Comparing cluster and sample means: schematic representation | 102 |
| Fig. 5.3 | Distribution of London and Toronto networks in the clusters | 109 |

LIST OF TABLES

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| Table 3.1 | Origins and counts of Pacific migrants living in Toronto and London in 2011 | 41 |
| Table 3.2 | Sample distribution (in %) across different characteristics of respondents | 47 |
| Table 3.3 | Numbers of names elicited with different name generator questions | 51 |
| Table 4.1 | Moving through visa categories | 69 |
| Table 4.2 | Number and percentage of respondents in different occupations | 70 |
| Table 4.3 | Potential for diversity amongst London and Toronto social contacts | 72 |
| Table 4.4 | Variables included in the analysis | 74 |
| Table 4.5 | Homophily across the 54 networks | 81 |
| Table 5.1 | Overview of variables included in the cluster analysis | 97 |
| Table 5.2 | Cluster-specific range of homophily values | 98 |
| Table 5.3 | Comparing cluster and sample means | 101 |
| Table 5.4 | Membership matrix resulting from fuzzy c-means cluster analysis | 107 |