

**Mr. Camille Salgues**

Born in July 1979, in France

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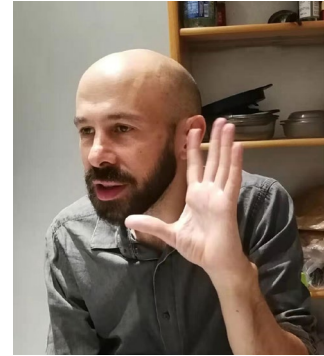
[camillesalgues@hotmail.com](mailto:camillesalgues@hotmail.com)

**Research interest**

China.  
Childhood.  
Migrations.  
Epistemology and methodology  
of social sciences.  
Translation.

**Languages**

French (mother  
tongue).  
English (fluent).  
Chinese (fluent).  
Spanish (intermediate)



***PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN RESEARCH***

- 2022 (Fall)** – Contract researcher, CERI, Sciences po (Paris).
- 2022 (Spring)** Associate researcher, department of Foreign Languages, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (UESTC), Chengdu
- 2019-22** Postdoctoral researcher, South China Normal University, department of Geography (associate Pr. : Zhu Hong)
- 2016-18** Postdoctoral researcher, Sun Yat-sen University, Philosophy department (associate Pr: Wu Chongqing)

***EDUCATION***

- 2006-15** PhD in sociology, EHESS, Paris. Prof. Didier Fassin, advisor.
- 2002-03** Visiting Student, Johns Hopkins University, Humanities Center, Baltimore.
- 2000-05** License in Sociology, University Paris 7. Master in Social sciences, EHESS. Student at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris.
- 1997-2000** Preparatory classes to grandes écoles. Successful candidate at the Ecole Normale Supérieure (巴黎高等师范大学) (Paris), June 2000.

***TEACHING EXPERIENCE (SELECTION)***

- 2020 (Spring) Anthropology of age and of childhood (20h), Paris 8-St Denis University
- 2019 (Fall) English teacher at a primary public school in a rural school (Guangdong Province)
- 2016 (Spring). Seminar on Bourdieu and contemporary French Sociology, Sun Yat-Sen Univ.
- 2006-2008 (Spring). English teacher at a primary private school for rural migrants in Shanghai
- 2006 (Fall)-2007 (Fall). Teaching Assistant in sociology, University Paris 13
- 2004-2005. Teaching Assistant in French, East China Normal Univ. (华东师范大学), Shanghai

*Growing up on the fringes of Shanghai*  
*The Sociology of childhood in the face of rural migrants' situation in contemporary China*

My PhD received fellowship awards from French government and was defended *summa cum laude* on June 2015 at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales. Advisor : Didier Fassin

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**Fields:**

I stayed three times for a duration of one semester each in Shanghai (first semester 2006, 2007 and 2008). I lived with the *nongmingong* in a neighborhood situated on the fringes of Shanghai and was an English teacher at a migrant school and at home in a few families.

This ethnographic work was supplemented by a detailed analysis of a corpus of 74 articles in Chinese with the term *mingong zinü* (rural migrants) in the title.

**Jury :**

Didier Fassin, IAS, Princeton/EHESS, Paris (Advisor)

Jean-Louis Rocca, Sciences Po, Paris

Yves Winkin, CNAM, Paris

Isabelle Thireau, EHESS, Paris

Marc Breviglieri, HES-SO - Hets, Genève

Olga Nieuwenhuys, Amsterdam University, Amsterdam

ÉCOLE DES HAUTES ÉTUDES EN SCIENCES SOCIALES  
Ecole doctorale de l'EHESS 286  
Doctorat de sociologie  
Grandir aux marges de Shanghai  
Une sociologie du statut d'âge à l'aune de la condition  
des enfants de migrants ruraux en Chine



CAMELLE SALGUES  
Sous la direction de Didier FASSIN  
Soutenu(e) le 29 juin 2015 à Paris

Jury :  
Marc BREVIGLIERI, Haute École Spécialisée de Suisse Occidentale - HETS, Genève  
Didier FASSIN, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton / EHESS, Paris  
Olga NIEUWENHUYS, Université d'Amsterdam, Amsterdam  
Jean-Louis ROCCA, Sciences Po, Paris  
Isabelle THIREAU, École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris  
Yves WINKIN, Conservatoire national des arts et métiers, Paris

**Summary:**

The contemporary mass migration of Chinese rural workers involves a large number of children, living with their parents in urban centers. Those children face various difficulties, including access to school. This dissertation deals with both their everyday life and the debates over their situation within China, in the first decade of the 21st century. It brings together a content analysis of Chinese articles and an ethnography that took place in a run-down neighborhood located at the margins of Shanghai.

At the public level, the analysis highlights the rise of a politics of compassion. By contrast, at the ground level, there is an institutional vacuum. Nevertheless, the ethnography breaks away from the low self-esteem narrative that surrounds these minors, and shows how these children overcome a number of obstacles to live their lives in the full: how they find materials in school and in friendships to build their identity, like other children do, despite an institutional and relational fragility; how they manage to have fun and to organize games in a harsh environment; how they negotiate their place in the town alongside other categories of people.

Particular attention has been paid to the challenging question of how the sociology of childhood can accurately describe such precarious lives as those of the rural migrants' children. The author outlines the importance of thinking together one's social position and one's status regarding one's age. "Age status", defined as the fact that you are an adult or a child, appears as the product of a structural logic, comparable in its importance and magnitude to gender, class or ethnicity.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Peer-reviewed:**

Salgues Camille : “[Childhood Studies in France](#).” In *Oxford Bibliographies in Childhood Studies*. Ed. Heather Montgomery. New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

*(A review of what can be considered the French equivalent of childhood studies and the debates that run through this field. Provides annotated references, by discipline.)*

Salgues Camille, 2021: “[In the Midst of Rubble, Bordering the Wasteland: Landscapes of Ruins and Childhood Experiences in China](#)”, *China Perspectives* 2021/4, p. 31-40, **SSCI**.

*(Ethnographic explorations of the mutual relations between children and ruins in peripheral spaces in China, from a structural geography and qualitative demography perspective).*

Salgues Camille, 2021: “[The Socially Vulnerable Children’s Playtime: Sociology of Childhood and ‘Structural Holism’](#)” (in French), *Sociétés politiques comparées* 53, January-April 2021.

*(An epistemological rewriting of the sociology of childhood based on V. Descombes’ “structural holism”, applied to ethnographical data on Chinese migrant rural children’s playtime).*

Salgues Camille, 2018: 《通过整体论社会学来思考农民工子女就学现象的民族志研究》，*开放时代* (Open times), 277/1, p. 166-182, **CSSCI**.

*(A Durkheimian approach of migrant children’s schooling. Translation: Hong Tao).*

Salgues Camille, 2018 : “[Bourdieu without childhood: Methods and theoretical postulates of a study on French working-class children](#)”, *Childhood*, 25/1, p. 109-122, **SSCI**.

*(A comparison between two sociological traditions – French-written Bourdieusian sociology and English-written Childhood studies – applied to a research on working-class children).*

Salgues Camille, 2012: “Ethnographie du fait scolaire chez les migrants ruraux à Shanghai. L’enfance, une dimension sociale irréductible”, *Politix*, n°99, p. 129-152, **SSCI**.

*(A detailed description of the school life of rural migrants children in Shanghai, from a holistic perspective. Published in one of the major French journals of political sciences).*

Salgues Camille, 2009: “La Chine, entre cadre et contexte. Une recherche sur les enfants de mingong, plusieurs constructions du savoir”, *Terrains et travaux*, n°16, p. 175-193.

*(About the different ways of framing an ethnographical research in China.).*

Salgues Camille, 2008: “Un nouveau Wittgenstein encore inapprochable. Le rôle et la place du philosophe dans l’anthropologie”, *L’Homme*, 3/4, n°187-188, p. 201-222, **SSCI**.

*(About the philosopher L. Wittgenstein and his influence on contemporary anthropology, both in France and in America. Published in French most influential anthropological journal).*

### **Other:**

Salgues Camille, Forthcoming : 《观察上海郊区游戏厅——借助实用主义社会学，重新思考童年社会学》 (An arcade on the outskirts of Shanghai. Milestones for a rewriting of childhood with pragmatic sociology), in Florence Padovani (ed.), *实用主义社会学的革新：中法学者面对面*, Beijing Normal University Press.

Salgues Camille, 2017, “[Penser le souci public pour l’enfance en Chine. Le cas des enfants de migrants internes](#)”, *Monographies Sud-Nord*, 3, p. 7-14.

Salgues Camille, 2012, “‘Ici c’est comme le Sichuan après le tremblement de terre.’ Paysage moral des enfants de migrants ruraux à Shanghai”, in D. Fassin, J.-S. Eideliman (ed.), *Economies morales contemporaines*, La découverte, p. 73-93.

(*About the moral life of rural migrants’ children, from an anthropological point of view*).

## TRANSLATION

### Book:

(Forthcoming) *Unequal childhoods. Class, Race and Family Life*, Annette Lareau, Préface par Sylvie Octobre et Régine Sirota, (traduit de l’anglais), Lyon : ENS Éditions.

2013, *Voyage en terres bipolaires. Manie et dépression dans la culture américaine*, Emily Martin (translated from *Bipolar Expeditions*, English), Éditions de la rue d’Ulm, Paris. 416 p.

### Articles:

2008, “L’hégémonie fondée sur les relations dans l’industrie du bâtiment”, Shen Yuan (沈原) (translated from Chinese, Mandarin), in J.-L. Rocca (ed.), *La société chinoise vue par ses sociologues. Migrations, villes, classe moyenne, drogue, Sida*, Presses de la fondation nationale des sciences politiques, Paris, p. 93-129.

2010, “Ceux qui savent l’édifice social. Le délit d’initié comme économie informelle et son coût social”, Hansen Laura (translated from English), in L. Fontaine et F. Weber (ed.), 2010, *Les paradoxes de l’économie informelles. A qui profitent les règles ?* Karthala, Paris, p. 161-183.

2015, « Le triage social et les limites du care : penser la catastrophe, le care et les capacités à travers l’exemple de Katrina », Anne Lovell (translated from English), *Raison Publique*.

2016, « *Town meeting* et race en Amérique », Sandra M. Gustafson, *Participations*, 2.

2016, « D’une manière pacifique et ordonnée. *Town meeting* et assemblées populaires à l’époque de la fondation des États-Unis », Robert W. T. Martin, *Participations*, 2.

## PRESENTATION

### In international symposiums:

2019 (with Xu Yiru), “Pluralité des systèmes de référence à l’âge et à la génération dans le sud de la Chine : une approche anthropologique et linguistique”, conférence : Languages, Cultures and Education in South East Asia: Identity and Diversity, Royal University of Phnom Penh, October 16th-19th 2019.

2019, “Approches critiques dans les études anglophones et francophones sur l’enfance : repenser la place de la géographie et de la démographie”, Conférence : Approches critiques de la dimension spatiale des rapports sociaux : débats transdisciplinaires et transnationaux, Caen University, Caen.

2018, “(Absent) childhood and resilience to urbanization in Southern China”, Royal Geographical Society Annual International Conference, Cardiff University, Cardiff.

2015, “Migrants children in Shanghai. A view from urban anthropology”, 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference of The International Childhood And Youth Research Network, Cyprus European University.

2014, “The Making and Limitations of Chinese Compassionate Government: A Case Study of Rural Migrants’ Children”, Conférence *The Making of Chinese Subjects*, CERI, Sc Po, Paris.

2007, “Can Peasant-Workers Children Teach us Something about Contemporary China?”, conférence : Quels outils pour analyser les sociétés contemporaines ?, CEFC, Beijing.

### Other (selection):

2022, “Penser ensemble enfance et adultéité. Problèmes et apports de la traduction d’*Unequal childhoods* (A. Lareau) pour le débat français”, Conférence on “l’adultéité en question”, Besançon.

2019, “Des enfants ruraux dans une Chine urbaine. L’arrangement du monde vu de bas”, as part of a

series of conferences on “Renouveau de la sociologie pragmatique”, Beijing Normal University, Beijing.

2018, “Modes of age. Social sciences and the discussion of childhood”, Sun Yat-sen University, philosophy department, Guangzhou (China).

2017, “Une mise en perspective du souci contemporain de l'enfance”, CEFC, Hong Kong.

2015, “Penser le souci public pour l'enfance en Chine *via* une sociologie de l'âge. Le cas des migrations internes”, Journées d'études “Enquêter aujourd'hui sur la Chine contemporaine. Jeunes chercheurs-e-s, nouveaux objets et nouvelles méthodes” Université Paris I- IEDS, Paris.

### ***CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION***

2016, Co-organizer of the study day for junior researchers, « Expériences urbaines des enfants et traitement institutionnel des mineurs : repenser la question des âges dans la ville », 4<sup>th</sup> of February.

2013, Co-organizer of the international workshop, “Which discipline do children belong to?”, 22-23 of May. <http://jediscenf2013.sciencesconf.org/>

2010, Organizer of the public lecture / debate : “Le jeu dans la cité”, 13<sup>th</sup> of March, Paris.