

## **DR. LETA HONG FINCHER**

Research Associate, Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University

---

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Single-Authored Books**

Fincher, Leta Hong. 2023. *Leftover Women: The Resurgence of Gender Inequality in*

*China, 10th Anniversary Edition*. London: Bloomsbury Academic. Fully updated edition named one of the best books of 2023 by China Books Review. Named one of the “Books to Read to Understand China Today” in 2024 by Guardian correspondent Tania Branigan. Original 2014 edition (Zed Books) named one of the best books on China by the New York Times in 2018, one of the top 5 China books of 2014 by the Asia Society’s ChinaFile, one of the best foreign policy books in 2014 by FP Interrupted and one of the best Asian books of 2014 by Asia House.

Fincher, Leta Hong. 2018. *Betraying Big Brother: The Feminist Awakening in China*.

New York: Verso Books. Named one of the best books of 2018 by Vanity Fair, Newsweek, Foreign Policy Interrupted, Bitch Media and Autostraddle. New York Times “New and Noteworthy” pick. Named one of New York Public Library’s “essential reads on feminism” in August 2020 to mark the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment. Translated into Portuguese, Korean and Italian. Japanese, Spanish and Thai editions in progress.

### **Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters**

Fincher, Leta Hong. 2022. “What is the MeToo movement in China all about?”

Chapter in *The China Questions 2: Critical Insights into US-China Relations*, edited by Maria Adele Carrai, Jennifer Rudolph and Michael Szonyi. Harvard University Press.

Fincher, Leta Hong. 2019. “Property, Patriarchy and the Chinese State.” Chapter in *The Psychology of Women Under Patriarchy*, edited by Holly F. Mathews and Adriana M. Manago. Santa Fe: University of New Mexico Press.

Fincher, Leta Hong. 2016. “Feminism, Chinese.” In *The Wiley-Blackwell*

*Encyclopedia of Gender and Sexuality Studies*, edited by Nancy Naples, Renee C. Hoogland, Maithree Wickramasinghe and Angela Wong Wai Ching. Wiley-Blackwell.

See website [www.letahongfincher.com](http://www.letahongfincher.com) for recent articles in publications such as the New York Times, Washington Post, Harper’s Bazaar, Dissent Magazine and

others.

## **SELECTED TALKS**

### **2024**

Leitner Center, Fordham Law School; Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University; Worcester Polytechnic Institute; Porter Square Books, Cambridge, MA; Red Emma's Bookstore, Baltimore; Royal Asiatic Society Beijing (online).  
University of Colorado Boulder Program for Teaching East Asia.

### **2023**

CSIS Freeman Chair in China Studies roundtable discussion of my book *Leftover Women*; Council on Foreign Relations (online); People's Book, DC/Maryland; Young China Watchers, New York; Word Up Community Bookshop, New York; Big Blue Marble Bookstore, Philadelphia; European China Conference organized by European Council on Foreign Relations and Mercator Institute for China Studies, Berlin; Open Society, Shifting Lens on China series (online); University of Minnesota China Center.

### **2022**

CSIS China's Human Capital Landscape discussion, Washington DC; Testified before Congressional-Executive Commission on China's hearing on women's rights in China; Guardian Live feminism in China event (online); keynote speaker, Brigham Young University Kennedy Center for International Studies (online).

### **2021**

SAIS Women Lead (online); Human Rights Funders Network (online); keynote speaker, Western Michigan University Asian Forum 2021 (online).

### **2020**

The Albright Institute, Wellesley College; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Heinrich Böll Foundation - A feminist exploration of covid-19 (online); panelist for CSIS Doubling Down on China: An initial analysis of China's 14th Five-Year Plan (online).

### **2019**

Stanford University Center for East Asian Studies; UC Irvine Long US-China Institute; UC San Diego 21<sup>st</sup> Century China Center; USC US-China Institute; Pomona College; World Affairs Council, San Francisco; UC Santa Cruz Humanities Institute; UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies; Harvard College Project for Asian and International Relations; Sydney Opera House "All About Women" Festival, Australia; Adelaide Writers Week, Australia; Queen Victoria Women's Centre, Melbourne, Australia; Beijing Bookworm International Literary Festival, China; Chinese University of Hong Kong;

University of Toronto Munk School of Global Affairs; University of Wisconsin-Madison; Cornell University ILR School; PEN World Voices Festival, New York; The China Institute, New York; The New School, New York; University of Oslo, Norway; Aspen Ideas Festival, Colorado; Dialogue China, Washington D.C; Town Hall Seattle; University of South Florida Center for Strategic and Diplomatic Studies Women's Empowerment Conference – keynote speaker; Loyola Marymount University, LA; Museum of Chinese in America, New York.

## 2018

Council on Foreign Relations, New York; Harvard University Fairbank Center, Cambridge, MA; China Institute, New York; Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Washington DC; Bristol Festival of Ideas, UK; China Changing Festival, Southbank Centre, London; Cheltenham Literature Festival, UK; Young China Watchers, London; Yale Law School; Columbia University Weatherhead East Asian Institute; Bryn Mawr College; Princeton University Center on Contemporary China; University of Hong Kong; Foreign Correspondents Club, Hong Kong; Hong Kong International Literary Festival; Williams College, MA; Trinity University, TX.

## BOOK REVIEWS AND MEDIA APPEARANCES

My books *Leftover Women* and *Betraying Big Brother* have been widely reviewed by academic journals and media outlets. I have often been quoted in TV, radio and print media on issues related to gender and feminism in China. See my website [www.letahongfincher.com](http://www.letahongfincher.com) for more details.

## SELECTED AWARDS

Mellon Global Initiative grant, \$75,000. Funded Spring 2016 semester as Visiting Assistant Professor at Columbia University, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. I designed and taught two new courses: *Social Problems in Contemporary China* and *Gender, Class and Real Estate in China*. 2016.

Sigma Delta Chi Award from the Society of Professional Journalists “in recognition of distinguished service to the American people and the profession of journalism through outstanding accomplishment during the year of 2002 in the field of Television - Feature Reporting.” I filmed a video feature report, “Traffic of Tears,” which depicted the transnational trafficking of Chinese women. 2002.

Cowan Award for Humanitarian Reporting. I filmed a short video documentary on the forced relocation of hundreds of thousands of villagers to make way for construction of China's Three Gorges Dam. I also adapted it into a radio series. 2002.

New York Festivals Finalist, Best Television Feature. I filmed a video feature report, "Mongolian Winter," on Mongolian nomadic herders recovering from a devastating dzud (blizzard). 2000.

Voice of America Broadcaster of the Year Award "for bringing insight, depth, texture and enterprise to VOA's coverage of China." 2001.

## TEACHING

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Columbia University Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. (Fall 2019 - Spring 2023). Designed and taught seminars for advanced undergraduates and M.A. students, *Gender, Class and Real Estate in Urbanizing China*; *Social Problems in Contemporary China*; and *Transnational Feminisms: China and Beyond* (jointly with the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, Columbia University). Advised Columbia University Institute for the Study of Human Rights M.A. student thesis and Columbia University M.A. in Regional Studies: East Asia student thesis.

Lecturer (August 2016 – January 2017). Centre for China Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Designed and taught *Gender in Modern Chinese Literature and Culture*, a master's degree course.

Lecturer (August 2015 – December 2015). Centre for China Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Designed and taught undergraduate lecture course *Social Issues and Problems in Contemporary China*.

Lecturer (August 2014 – July 2015). Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Division of Social Science. Taught *Social Change in Contemporary China*, Spring 2015. Taught undergraduate tutorials for introductory core course *Contemporary China: Continuity and Change*, Fall 2014 and Spring 2015.

## JOURNALISM

I worked for many years as a television/radio journalist, including assignments as Beijing Correspondent for Voice of America, Shanghai Correspondent for CNBC Asia, Hong Kong Reporter for Asia Television, Hong Kong Producer for Radio Free Asia, and Researcher for ABC News in New York. I have written extensively for publications such as the New York Times, Washington Post, CNN and others. Further details on my journalism experience provided upon request.

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. Tsinghua University.** Sociology, July 2014. First American to receive a Ph.D. from Tsinghua University's Department of Sociology. China Scholarship Council full

tuition fellowship, stipend and housing. Dissertation: *Residential Real Estate Wealth, 'Leftover' Women (Shengnü), and Gender Inequality in Urban China.*

**M.A. Stanford University.** East Asian Studies, October 1992. Shaw full tuition fellowship and Walter Shorenstein living stipend fellowship.

**B.A. magna cum laude, Harvard University.** East Asian Languages and Civilizations, June 1990. John Harvard Scholarship and Agassiz Award for academic achievement of the highest distinction. Won Harvard Foundation Award for contribution to race relations. Adams House Arms Award for contribution to community and residential life.

## **LANGUAGES**

Mandarin: Professional proficiency. French and German: Intermediate reading proficiency. Cantonese: Elementary proficiency.

## **OTHER**

Currently a Research Associate at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University. Expert witness providing deposition and extensive written testimonies for prominent Chinese #MeToo case, *Jingyao Liu v. Liu Qiangdong and JD.com. Inc.*, Fourth Judicial District, Hennepin County, Minnesota: settlement reached October 2022. National Endowment for the Humanities panelist, 2021. U.S. citizen.

## **REFERENCES**

Available upon request.