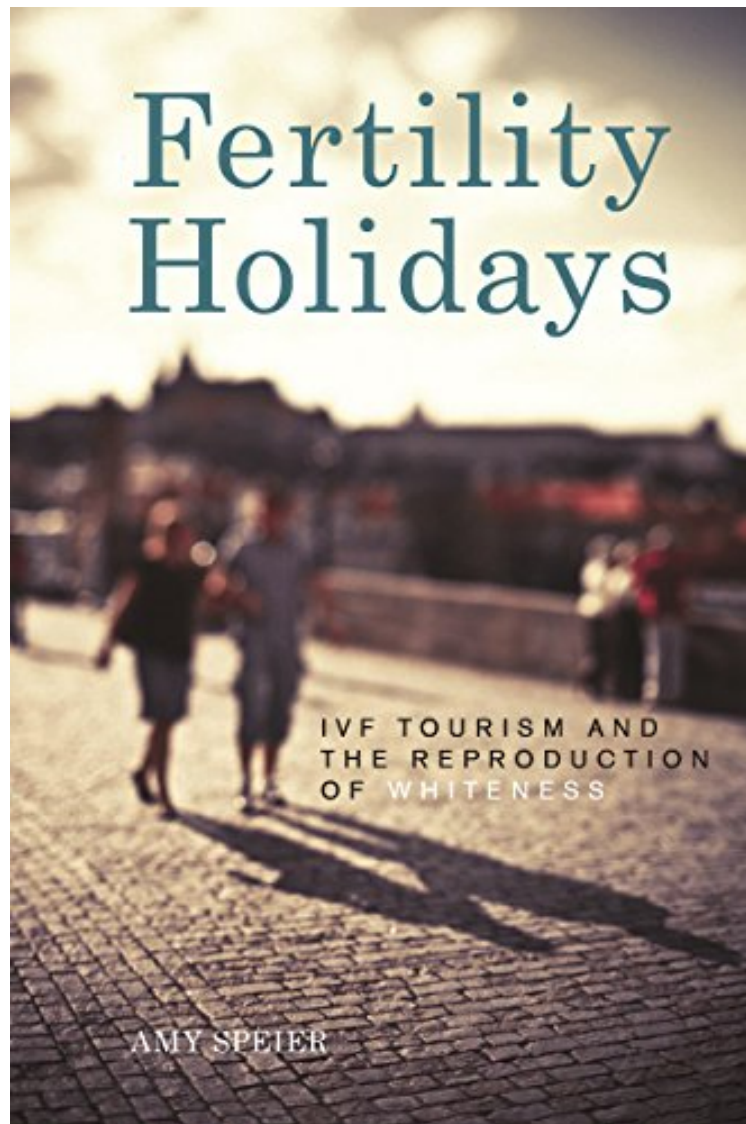


(Mobile book) Fertility Holidays: IVF Tourism and the Reproduction of Whiteness

Fertility Holidays: IVF Tourism and the Reproduction of Whiteness

Amy Speier

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Each year, more and more Americans travel out of the country seeking low cost medical treatments abroad, including fertility treatments such as in vitro fertilization (IVF). As the lower middle classes of the United States have been priced out of an expensive privatized baby business, the Czech Republic has emerged as a central hub of fertility tourism, offering a plentitude of blonde-haired, blue-eyed egg donors at a fraction of the price.

"One of the first ethnographies on reproductive tourism, this book offers a captivating read into what these multi-faceted transnational experiences are like for the women, and men, involved as patients, clients, consumers, vacationers, and sometimes, parents. Through her nimble fieldwork, Amy Speier allows readers to see what it means in practice to seek out IVF as a patient-tourist in a global neoliberal marketplace of reproductive technologies and affective labor. . . . An intimate glimpse into the 21st century systems of hope on which many infertile heterosexual couples now depend to become parents, *Fertility Holidays* is timely and fascinating; a must read!"-Susan Frohlick, University of British Columbia "*Fertility Holidays* focuses on a group of North Americans traveling to the Czech Republic in search of respectful medical care at market-driven low prices, combined with a European vacation. In Speiers adroit analysis, their layers of techno-hope cannot be separated from a desire to stabilize their chances of giving birth to 'white' babies. This compelling ethnographic account of Eastern European fertility entrepreneurship provides feminist insight into the marketization of reproductive bodies, showing how multilayered and multi-sited medical travel has become."-Rayna Rapp, author of *Testing Women, Testing the Fetus: the Social Impact of Amniocentesis in America* About the Author Amy Speier is Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Texas at Arlington.