Childhood and ‘Illegality’ in Migrant Malaysia
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This presentation is about the children of Filipino and Indonesian migrants living in the city of Kota Kinabalu in Sabah, Malaysian Borneo. It describes the ways in which ‘illegality’, as a socio-political construction, shapes children’s daily experiences, as well as their perspectives on both Malaysian society and their parents’ country of origin. More broadly, Catherine Allerton examines how ‘illegality’ and ‘childhood’ are mutually constructed in Sabah, where citizenship and education are denied to ‘foreign’ children.