In search of work. International migration of women in Latin America and the Caribbean. Selected bibliography

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Santiago, Chile, April 2004
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Abstract

This selected bibliography on the migration of women in Latin America and the Caribbean in search of work forms part of the activities of the ECLAC/GTZ project "Gender oriented labour market policy", whose main objective is to promote the implementation of measures in favour of equality in employment and labour market policies.

In recent decades, a large number of the region’s inhabitants have emigrated to more economically developed countries. More recently still, we have seen the phenomenon of intraregional migration flows, which, from the 1980s onwards, have increasingly come to be dominated by women.

This selected bibliography on the international migration of the region’s women in search of work focuses on the labour market, which is one of the spheres where inequality and discrimination affecting women is most starkly on display. Women’s migration differs from that of men in terms of its features and implications; for instance, women find themselves confined to precarious jobs characterized by a high degree of exploitation, such as sex work and domestic service, and are more vulnerable during the migration process, especially where trafficking in persons is involved. The increasing feminization of migration processes and the ensuing policy challenges for both countries of origin and destination make analysis from a gender perspective imperative, and call for it to be considered in public-policy making.
This bibliography seeks to set out methodically the information available on the subject and facilitate access to it. The documents selected, their methodical arrangement and analysis reveal the current state of the literature, their contributions and subjects of interest; however, they also point to gaps and challenges for future research projects and, crucially, for the adoption of public policies that respect the women migrants’ rights. Three indexes are included to make consultation easier: an alphabetical index of authors, a subject index and a geographical index. In addition, three lists are provided giving access to new sources of information on related international agreements, central national instruments and web sites of interest.
Introduction

This selected bibliography on the international migration of women in Latin America and the Caribbean in search of work was compiled as part of the project “Gender oriented labour market policy”, which is being implemented by the Women and Development Unit of ECLAC with the support of the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ).

The project focuses on the labour market, as one of the spheres where the inequality and discrimination that affect the region’s women is most clearly evident, and where regulations currently in place curtail women’s economic and social rights and prevent them from exercising full citizenship. The main goals of the project are to promote the implementation of measures in favour of gender equality in labour market policies, in the current context of economic policies—in both the national and domestic arenas—, while also strengthening the capacity for dialogue, negotiation and consensus on the issue among national mechanisms concerned with women’s advancement, Labour Ministries, and other institutional actors in government and civil society. In addition, the project provides for the development of technical instruments aimed at facilitating improved exchange and dissemination of information on various aspects that influence women’s economic behaviour. This bibliography is in line with these aims.

Globalization is currently characterized by economic liberalization, changing production modes of and labour-market flexibility, among other features. These processes have an impact on women’s lives, especially those of the poorest women, encouraging them to migrate in search of jobs which do not exist in their original place of residence.
Hence, the globalization of the economy not only affects flows of capital and goods, but is also a driving force behind the growing mobility of workers, both male and female, seeking jobs and better working conditions outside their countries of origin. The mobility of capital and the spatial distribution of investments are consistent with the mobility of populations. Against this backdrop, Latin America and the Caribbean have in recent decades witnessed the emigration of a large number of their inhabitants to more economically developed countries. A more recent phenomenon still has been the stream of intraregional migration, which has come to the attention of civil society and the public institutions of the region. From the 1980s onwards, these intraregional flows have featured women more prominently.

The migration of women from Latin America and the Caribbean is an emerging field of research, marked by complexity and diversity. That notwithstanding, researchers agree that the migration of women has its own unique features and consequences that distinguish it from the migration of men. In particular, women find their options limited to precarious jobs involving a high degree of exploitation, such as sex work and domestic service, and are more vulnerable during the shifting process, particularly where trafficking in persons is involved.

The phenomenon of migration is of crucial importance and poses policy challenges for the countries of origin and destination alike; this, together with the increasing feminization of the process, makes analysis from a gender perspective essential, and implies that countries’ public policies should give consideration to a gender focus. The bibliography provided seeks to set out methodically the information available on the subject and facilitate access to it. The documents selected, their methodical arrangement and analysis provide an insight into the current state of the literature, their contributions and associated subjects of interest; however, they also help to identify pending challenges for future research projects and, crucially, for the implementation of public policies that respect women migrants’ rights. Three indexes are included to make consultation easier: an alphabetical index of authors, a subject index and a geographical index. In addition, three lists help ensure easier access to new sources of information for more in-depth study of selected topics: related international agreements, central national instruments and web sites of interest.
Women and international migration. Review of the state of the literature

The statistical data available shows that women account for almost half of the world’s migrants, make up most internal migrations in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and predominate in many of the intraregional migration flows (Martínez/Reboiras 2001, United Nations 2001). However, it is not simply the figures that make a study of international migration from a gender perspective imperative; as is evidenced by the publications selected in this document, women’s experience of migration differs significantly from that of men.

This is borne out in every phase of the migration process: from the factors that influence the decision to migrate—which, as a general rule, go beyond the simply financial—to the conditions of migration process, the nature and quality of integration into the society and labour market of the country of destination, particularly their legal status, and even the reasons for returning (or not returning) to the country of origin. Moreover, the migration of women has impacts on the societies of origin, on their families and children, on gender relations and on themselves; sometimes they achieve their goals while on other occasions they face situations of abuse and exploitation that violate their most basic rights.

However, female migration is not a homogeneous phenomenon. Quite the contrary: Latin American women migrate to a variety of destinations, and for a variety of reasons; some leave alone or in family groups, some join up with their families abroad; some flee from wars and persecution, while some relocate in search of better financial prospects and personal freedom. Some depart with high-level skills or simply out of a pressing need to provide for themselves and their families, fitting into different occupational strata, keeping in contact with their original place of residence, sending remittances home, settling down or returning to their countries or origin.

Each woman’s experience is different; moreover, the migration process leads to highly paradoxical situations for women migrants. Some studies contend that the migration process opens up new opportunities for women, allowing them to renegotiate their gender roles within the family and society, but others show that life in another country may imply losses and additional burdens that affect women’s capabilities and options. The process may also lead to an increase in financial demands on the part of families back home, as well as to new situations of dependency and abuse in workplace relations in the country of destination. The debate over the empowerment or disempowerment of women migrants is one of the most clearly visible aspects featured in the bibliography.

Internal migration has been the subject of research for over 30 years, but it is only recently that the active role played by women in international migration has come in for scrutiny, either in theoretical or field studies. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for migration policies, as these continue to be based on an androcentric notion that perceives the man as the active migrant with the woman dependent on him.

This bibliography seeks in particular to outline certain advances made in identifying the causes, impacts, problems and policy challenges of the international migration of women in search of work. In this context, it is understood as a starting point for broadening and deepening research on migration of women, enhancing the exchange of information, and facilitating access to core

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knowledge on public policy formulation, with the aim of guaranteeing women migrants’ human rights.

**Methodological aspects**

As has been stated above, international migration is a wide-ranging subject that can be addressed from numerous perspectives. For purposes of methodical arrangement, this bibliography uses the following criteria:

1. **Geographical region**: International migration among the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and from those countries to the United States and the European Union, excluding internal migration.

2. **Type of migration**: Migration for work-related reasons, with work defined as including activities in the formal and informal sectors of the economy, reproductive work, productive work and sex work. Therefore, female refugees and women displaced for political reasons have been excluded (this group represents another very important dimension of women’s international migration).

3. **Analytical perspective**: Emphasis is placed on field and theoretical studies that deal with the issue from a gender perspective. This was the initial objective, but as the lack of gender studies for certain regions and areas became evident, it was decided to incorporate demographic and descriptive studies that, though lacking a gender perspective, provide significant information about the migration process broken down by sex.

4. **Year of publication**: Publications between 1995 and the first quarter of 2003. The reason for the decision is that 1995 was a milestone for the inclusion of the gender perspective in various areas of social, political and economic life as set out in the Beijing Platform, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women. However, a number of exceptions were allowed for earlier studies, due to their significant theoretical contribution.

5. **Language of publication**: Documents and books published in Spanish or English. An effort was made to include literature in Portuguese, relating to Brazil, but this was not possible in the time available. Asian crisis may have been unsound to start with, but the magnitude of the losses associated with them were determined even more by the major macroeconomic shocks that these regions experienced, which were probably.

The titles reviewed were compiled from searches in the ECLAC library, documentation centres in Santiago, Chile, such as Isis International and the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), the University of Chile, and various web sites and databases, among other sources. A request was also made to international organizations and their subregional headquarters, governments of the region, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and individual researchers for bibliographical information about the subject as well as publications produced by them. This request was well received, which reaffirmed the interest we felt existed for this study. A total of over 50 contributions were received from individuals and institutions, and for that we are particularly grateful.

**Organization of the work**

The abstracts of the documents selected are organized in the following manner:

- By decreasing chronological order and by alphabetical order of authors.
• Abstracts prepared after the texts were read through, and including the main issues, the methodology used and the main findings.

• Descriptors of the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Macrothesaurus. These were complemented by new descriptors to identify recent phenomena and, in particular, the gender dimension, with greater clarity. The added descriptors are: “sexual division of labour”, “skilled migration”, “return migration”, “social networks”, “trafficking in women” and “reproductive work”.

To make it easier to consult the bibliography, the following indexes are included in an annex:

• Alphabetical index of authors.

• Subject index, in accordance with the descriptors used.

• Geographical index.

In order to help broaden the search for information on migration, three lists are included:

• Related international agreements and instruments, in chronological order.

• Related national instruments.

• Related web sites.

Main findings and observations

The bibliography includes theoretical approaches to the issue of migration from a gender perspective —whether the extension of traditional models or the development of alternatives—, together with case studies that foreground women’s participation and the patterns exhibited in the various migration flows. The main issues dealt with are:

• The decision to migrate and the structural, social, individual and gender-related factors that affect that decision.

• Patterns of integration into the labour market, with domestic service and sex work predominant.

• Women migrants’ human rights, including issues such as citizenship, social protection, health care, legal status and trafficking.2

• The changes that migration produces in terms of gender relations and the status of women, in the family and/or social sphere.

• The impact of public policies (concerning migration and the labour market) on migration itself and the integration of women migrants into the labour market, as well as recommendations and proposals for the formulation and revision of policies.

• International agreements and instruments that affect women migrants.

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2 United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (2000) defines trafficking in persons as “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the sex work of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.”
The documents reviewed present new theoretical frameworks which make it possible to explore women’s experience of migration and appreciate the contributions made by them. In general, the rationale for each framework varies.

Some frameworks are based on a macrostructural approach, which highlights the way in which social, economic and political factors influence a rise in population flows, in general, and the displacement of women, in particular. From a macrostructural perspective, these processes cause and perpetuate the international migration of women. Further, structural changes in the developed countries have given rise to a demand for cheap labour, generally female, in the personal services sector (care of the elderly and children) and domestic service.

Other approaches consider micro or meso levels, emphasizing the importance of the household unit, which uses migration by certain family members as one strategy for diversifying income, as well as the role of social networks that facilitate the relocation of migrants and their entry into the labour market.

Approaches that analyse the impact of migration on women’s autonomy agree that changes occur in power relations within the family unit, but disagree as to what weight to give to these. While some approaches emphasize the gains made by the female migrant, through her entry into paid work and the shift to a different system of gender stratification, others point out that these changes do not extend to the family sphere, where gender relations remain unchanged or may even worsen for women, as they may face the double burden of productive and reproductive work.

The advances in theoretical approaches notwithstanding, an all-embracing theory of female migration remains illusive. Furthermore, most advances come out of the United States and Europe, and do not reflect the particular circumstances of Latin America and the Caribbean. Though there has been a substantial increase in the number of case studies on intraregional migration in the region, theoretical frameworks have not yet been developed that provide a picture of the situation of female migrants in the international context of economic, political, social, and cultural development, among others. Therefore, a major challenge for understanding and reflecting regional processes is the need to continue building on existing frameworks so that they can explain the particular developments in the region. A great deal of statistical data broken down by sex exists, but there is a need to develop related interpretative frameworks, for purposes of research and policy-making.

This theoretical vacuum aside, case studies on the region provide evidence of the increasing focus on migration flows and their important female component. It is clear that where intraregional migration is concerned, the image of the migrant as a single man is no longer applicable. Female migrants face discrimination on two counts: as women and as foreigners. In addition, when women migrate along with their families, their status as “dependants” limits their access to employment, social and health programmes put in place by host countries, and their legal residence is often tied to that of their spouse. Where intraregional migration is concerned, two cases are especially well documented: the migration of Nicaraguan women to Costa Rica, and that of Bolivian women to Argentina. Another case that is starting to be studied is that of Peruvian women who migrate to Chile. At the international level, the migration of Dominican women to Europe, especially Spain, is a case that has come in for special attention. Regarding other migration flows, the statistical data available, as collected by the Statistical System on Migrations in Central America (SIEMCA) and the project on Investigation of International Migration in Latin America (IMILA) conducted by the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE), points to the high female presence in migration; however, more in-depth research has yet to be carried out on the patterns and conditions of women’s participation in migration. For example, information on Central American women in Mexico and Colombian women in Venezuela is scarce, despite the fact that
statistical data document these flows. Likewise, there is a marked lack of information on migration among the Caribbean islands and limited access to research from the region.

In terms of central themes—and considering that this bibliography focuses on labour migration in all its forms—it is of note that skilled migration has not been studied from a gender perspective. Moreover, studies that deal with the migration of skilled labour do not even provide figures broken down by sex. This is an alarming gap, since it contributes to the image of marginalized women working in stereotypical jobs, in a day and age when it is known that globalization has spurred the mobility of women in professional, scientific and technical fields, with many involved in finance or working for multinational companies. The selected bibliography includes an article with a theoretical focus on skilled migration (Raghuram, 2000), which can serve as a reference for study of this type of migration from and within Latin America.

In any event, it is important to foreground the role and economic significance of women in migratory streams so as not to limit the analysis to the situation of poor female migrants, although they are in a more vulnerable position and consequently require more urgent action. In this context, it is beneficial to study three variations of skilled migration in greater depth: (1) migration of skilled women in skilled positions; (2) migration of skilled women in unskilled positions; and (3) migration of young female students in search of higher skills.

Another topic that warrants deeper analysis is the issue of remittances. When women migrate of their own account in order to increase their income, the money that they send back home has a multitude of impacts on household finances—whether on savings or on the purchase of goods and services—on the sexual division of labour and on gender relations; in addition, there is an impact on social stratification and the regional and national economy of the place of origin. Remittances are a sizeable source of foreign exchange earnings and a major contribution to countries’ gross national product. It is therefore essential to investigate more thoroughly the role of remittances, their use, impact and possible dependency on them, particularly in countries such as those of Central America, where they play a central role in the economy and the earning of foreign exchange. There is also a need to identify and assess the contribution of women migrants to the economic development of host countries.

At both points, origin and destination, it is necessary to accord greater value to the reproductive work of female migrants and non-migrants. In destination countries, migrants’ work in domestic service (paid reproductive work) enables other women, who lead more privileged lives, to free themselves from household chores and take up paid work outside the household. In the countries of origin, caring for migrants’ children is normally the responsibility of other women in the family (grandmothers, sisters, older daughters). Without their contribution, it would not be possible for the women to migrate.

When women with children migrate, there is also an impact on the children themselves. A number of studies have analysed these impacts in the destination country, but it is also important to ascertain the consequences for the sons and daughters who remain behind with other family members in the country of origin. Some of the pertinent questions are: how does the greater income from remittances sent by mothers offset their physical, and sometimes, emotional absence?; what is the impact on educational opportunities and performance of sons and daughters?; and is there an increased likelihood that they themselves will migrate?

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Pellegrino, Adela; Martínez Pizarro, Jorge (2001), Una aproximación al diseño de políticas sobre la migración internacional calificada en América Latina. Santiago: ECLAC.
Women migrants move between two cultures, that of their home country and that of the destination country. Different values, norms and customs, and even languages, usually cause women migrants psychosocial stress, and often contribute to marginalization and discrimination against migrants in the host society. Added to this is another phenomenon present in the host country, even more so when there is no experience of large-scale immigration: xenophobia and racism. As regards gender, it has been stressed that women migrants face multiple forms of discrimination, in that the factors of class, race/ethnicity, and legal status intersect with their status as women. In addition, the reception accorded to migrants in the workplace and the wider community of the host country must take into account the question of organization. In this context, it is essential to study both the response of trade unions vis-à-vis migration and that of migrants’ associations and social networks, migrants’ access to them and their impact on the integration and assimilation of the migrant population.

Parallel to the needs of the people in the poorest countries, the more economically developed countries, especially in Europe and the United States, continue to show a demand for formal and informal foreign labour, while at the same time imposing increasingly restrictive entry requirements. This situation encourages illegal trafficking in human beings, deceptive recruitment and forced sex work, and highlights the inconsistency between the free circulation of capital and free trade, on the one hand, and restrictions on the free movement of labour, on the other.

Trafficking in women is undoubtedly one of the most pressing problems on the international migration agenda, and, due to its illegal nature, it is also one of the most difficult subjects to study. There is a need for new research to be undertaken in this area with a view to the formulation of national policies. In this regard, one country that stands out is the Dominican Republic, where studies have been conducted documenting the trafficking issue and national programmes and laws have been developed to prevent and combat trafficking.4

As regards methodology, it is recommended that different methods be combined when tackling the issues referred to, since each has its own particular advantages and disadvantages. By way of example, the quantitative method can demonstrate, with a high degree of representativeness, the degree of female participation in the various migratory flows, but cannot provide reasons for a high or a low presence of women in each migration flow. It is therefore necessary to complement this approach with qualitative research, such as detailed interviews, ethnographic studies and small-scale surveys, in order to back up the interpretation of the data and, above all, to inquire into the subjectiveness of women migrants and the construction of the individual migrant.

The study of a multi-faceted issue like female migration requires a comprehensive theoretical and methodological approach. To that end, a degree of openness about theory is required, since there is no single explanation of women’s migration in search of work, nor is there one single impact. Gender comes into play in all of the dimensions and issues touched on, and a reading of the bibliography indicates that it is not a special case nor is it simply an additional variable, but rather that it must be an underlying theme of any research on migration.

4 See annex: Leading reference national instruments.
Abstracts
2003

001

Baer, Gladys; Gomes, Charles; Pérez Vichich, Nora; Santistevan, Ana María; Texidó, Ezequiel

La situación de los trabajadores migrantes en el Cono Sur en la década de los noventa [the situation of female migrant workers in the Southern Cone in the 1990s].


Analysis of migratory flows in the Southern Cone countries in the last decade, with special consideration of the characteristics of migrants’ integration in the labour markets of host countries. Based on the evaluation of national censuses and household surveys. Reveals as an essential feature the growing importance of women in all migration flows and their predominance in intraregional flows.

The study is divided into three parts. The first part describes the main migration patterns in the Southern Cone over the period 1990-2001, outlining the sociodemographic characteristics of the immigrant population in Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay. The second part analyses the labour markets in these countries, the impact of labour immigration and patterns of integration, according to the type of activity and occupational group. The study contends that the characteristics of integration of migrant labour differ according to sex and nationality. The third part deals with the issue of vulnerability, with a focus on the mechanisms of exclusion perpetuated through the perception of migrants and the way they are portrayed in the media, segregation in certain types of employment and irregular legal status.

<STATISTICAL ANALYSIS> <DISCRIMINATION> <LABOUR MARKET>

002

Chiarotti, Susana

United Nations ECLAC. CELADE; IDB

La trata de mujeres: sus conexiones y desconexiones con la migración y los derechos humanos [trafficking in women: connections and discontinuities with migration and human rights].


LC/L.1910-P


The author, a representative of the Latin America and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women’s Rights (CLADEM), begins by outlining the characteristics and the quantitative importance of trafficking in women, with a focus on the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. The second part identifies the main factors associated with female migration and trafficking in women, including poverty, war, the marriage market, and sex tourism. The third part features criticism of the way the issue is handled by national governments and international institutions. The author emphasizes the danger of using the abuses inherent in trafficking in women as a pretext for imposing restrictive migration policies. She calls for a review of the treatment given to trafficked women, who are perceived more as criminals than as victims of a crime that violates their human rights. The author states that policies have not placed sufficient emphasis on the pursuit of traffickers of women, nor given due consideration to the role of demand.
In this regard, the author recommends that international law and national policies focus on the punishment of traffickers, and that, at the national level, centres be set up to which victims can be referred without being considered criminals.

003

Martínez Buján, Raquel
CELADE
La reciente inmigración latinoamericana a España [recent immigration by Latin Americans to Spain].
LC/L.1922-P
http://www.eclac.cl/publicaciones/Poblacion/2/LCL1922P/lcl1922_p.pdf (309 Kb.)

Analysis of the composition immigration into Spain in the period 1999-2001, with flows characterized by a change in the breakdown by nationality; there is a significant rise in flows from Latin America, which account for 25.6% of all migrants in 2001. The data was extracted from a number of official registers maintained by ministries in charge of migrant affairs, showing that Ecuadorians and Colombians make up 29.8% and 17.2% of all Latin American migrants.

Recent years have seen a greater trend towards a higher male component in immigration, but flows continue to be dominated by women who become heads of household and who start the migration process backed by a series of support networks in the host country. Spain’s labour market for migrants is segmented according to gender and ethnic origin. Most immigrants find jobs in the service sector, which encompasses personal services, including domestic service and care of dependants, both jobs performed by women. This homogenization of the labour market is explained by the feminization of migration. According to the Regularization Survey of 2000, the average age of migrants is 34 and 21.2% have undertaken university studies.

004

Torales, Ponciano; González, Estela; Pérez Vichich, Nora
Migraciones laborales en Sudamérica: la Comunidad Andina [labour migrations in South America: the Andean Community].

Analysis of labour migration in the countries of the Andean Community (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela), including a description of migrant workers, their living and working conditions and their rights.

Labour migration in the region is set in the context of globalization and the structural changes that have affected the Andean economies, resulting in growing deregulation and informalization of labour markets. Against this backdrop, migration, together with an increased labour-market participation of women and children, represents one of the strategies adopted by workers to deal with the consequences of these processes.
Having reviewed the development of labour markets in the respective countries, the study goes on to analyse the extent, composition, integration and impact of immigration in these markets. The feminization of some streams is noted, although a higher labour market participation by men is pointed out. Women find employment in the service sector, especially domestic service. A field study carried out on the border between Ecuador and Colombia complements the statistical analysis, touching on issues such as the perception of migrants and discrimination (including discrimination reinforced on account of gender status). The last part of the study traces the evolution of migration policies and legal regulation of immigrants’ participation in the labour market in the various countries. The study also outlines bilateral and regional agreements and pertinent regulations in the Andean Community.

Araujo, Kathya; Legua, María Claudia; Ossandón, Loreto
Migrantes andinas en Chile. El caso de la migración peruana [Andean female migrants in Chile: the case of Peruvian migration].

Case study of Peruvian immigration to Chile, with particular emphasis on the situation faced by women, based on official data, surveys conducted by NGOs, interviews with experts from government and civil society, and secondary sources.

Noteworthy findings include the feminization of cross-border migration to Chile (more than 65% women, according to official statistics), Chile’s economic and political stability and its geographical proximity as factors of attraction, Peru’s economic and political crises as the main causes of emigration, and the vulnerability of Peruvian women, due to their employment in Chile’s informal sector and the precarious situation regarding health, housing, migration status, as well as racial and sexual discrimination.

The study concludes with some recommendations as regards policy-making, be it at the intergovernmental level (Peru-Chile), the international level (ILO agreements concerning female migrant workers) or the national level (migration, work and social status of female immigrants in Chile).
006

Ballara, Marcela
Los flujos migratorios y la globalización económica: su impacto en la feminización de las migraciones [migration flows and economic globalization: its impact on the feminization of migrations].

Summary of trends in international migration in Latin America, its feminization and its causes. It is contended that macrostructural changes are not neutral with respect to gender, but rather have induced women to play a more active role in migration. Female migration is based on “the comparative advantage of women’s disadvantages”, which is to say characteristics that make women more attractive in specific sectors of the labour market. Also, emigration by men leaves many women in charge of farming in the home country.

The paper suggests that the impact of the migration process on gender relations depends on each women’s pre-migration status and her cultural background. With women increasingly entering labour markets as a result of globalization, they have felt both positive and negative effects. The main problems facing women migrants are the precarious access to basic public services, a lack of information about their rights, difficulties in finding employment and organizing themselves independently, the uncertain nature of their labour and human rights, and the worsening of their living conditions.

The paper concludes that it is necessary to promote further research on the issue, implement international conventions, and incorporate the gender dimension in the study of migration and xenophobia.

<DISCRIMINATION> <SEXUAL DIVISION OF LABOUR> <GENDER RELATIONS>

007

D’Angelo, Almachiara; Pasos Marciacq, Myra
Nicaragua: Protecting Female Labour Migrants from Exploitative Working Conditions and Trafficking.

Study of Nicaraguan emigration, particularly to Costa Rica, with a focus on the situation facing women, based on documents, interviews with government authorities, migrants and their families, and secondary sources.

Outlines the socio-economic context of migration and its general patterns, the characteristics and problems of female migrants, their living and working conditions, and their main needs. The study then goes on to examine aspects of migration and labour laws, such as lateral agreements and amnesty programmes conducted in Costa Rica. The study provides an assessment of government policies and private-sector initiatives aiming at preparing emigrants, and points out that such initiatives are not well known. The study sets out government and private-sector programmes for female returnees to Nicaragua, with a special emphasis on the issue of remittances. The final part
outlines the institutions that have an influence on the promotion and design of policies and laws relating to migration.

The paper notes the economic rationale for the migration flow, the major importance of remittances for family and national incomes, the precarious nature of migrants’ human rights, especially those of women migrants, the lack of concrete initiatives by the authorities to protect those rights, and the scarcity of official data on trafficking, notwithstanding the fact that Nicaragua is believed to be one of the most significant corridors for trafficking in women and children.

The recommendations put forward include, inter alia, the drafting of policies and laws, the ratification of international agreements, the coordination of the various agencies working in the area, and the development of organizations to train migrants.

Compilation of national reports produced by CELADE, based on census data and presented at the Training Workshop on the analysis of census information for international migration in Central America, which was held in 2001. The workshop’s objectives were to analyse and interpret migration data obtained from population censuses, identify the possibilities and limitations of this data with respect to international migration, and facilitate an exchange of information among the countries of the region.

The reports from Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama include both demographic and socio-economic statistical data on emigrants and immigrants in the various countries. Some reports include references to the consequences of migration movements. Most of the studies provide a breakdown by sex, which indicates a growing female component, on occasions exceeding that of men.

Doña Reveco, Cristián (ed.); Martínez Pizarro, Jorge
United Nations. ECLAC; IOM
Informes nacionales sobre migración internacional en países de Centroamérica [national reports on international migration in the countries of Central America].
ECLAC Library: LC/L.1764-P. INT UN/GE 4.5(24/2002) (91348)

The reports from Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama include both demographic and socio-economic statistical data on emigrants and immigrants in the various countries. Some reports include references to the consequences of migration movements. Most of the studies provide a breakdown by sex, which indicates a growing female component, on occasions exceeding that of men.
Farah, Ivonne; Sánchez, Carmen

**Bolivia: An Assessment of the International Labour Migration Situation. The Case of Female Labour Migrants.**


Analysis of emigration from Bolivia, with an emphasis on the situation of women, based on documents, interviews with government authorities, migrants and their families, and a review of journals and secondary sources.

The paper outlines the socio-economic context of migration and its general patterns, the characteristics and problems of female migrants, their integration into the labour market, their needs and their main problems. The paper reveals that most female emigrants come from rural backgrounds and have low educational qualifications. The leading destination countries are Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Peru (and others, like the United States and Spain), where women work in clothes manufacturing, domestic service and commerce.

The paper examines the various stages of the migration process and female migrants’ needs. The main problems identified are the lack of documentation, workplace exploitation, trafficking and racial discrimination. The paper also outlines the benefits for migrants in terms of their financial situation, and professional and personal development.

The remainder of the document is divided into six parts. The first part consists of a review of the national legislative framework as regards gender equality, international and bilateral conventions signed by Bolivia, and laws on employment of women migrants and trafficking. The second and third parts examine government policies and programmes and NGO initiatives with regards to the preparation of women migrants, and efforts to protect them and prevent their exploitation, including an assessment and recommendations for future initiatives. The fourth and fifth parts deal with the lack of government initiatives and sparse private-sector initiatives in relation to female returnees. The last chapter analyses the institutional framework for the promotion of policies and legislative programmes, and coordination process at the national and international levels.

The paper sets out recommendations for protecting female migrants, such as establishing organizations that work with migrants in the countries of origin and destination, tailoring Bolivia’s diplomatic representation to the needs of migrants in the host countries, and assisting councils to inform and prepare emigrants, among other recommendations.

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Ferreira, Francyca; Gómez, Carmen Julia; Moreno, Luis; Fernández, Alina

**Trata de personas y migración internacional femenina. Un estudio cualitativo en dos comunidades de República Dominicana [People-trafficking and international female migration. A qualitative study on two communities in the Dominican Republic].**


Analysis of migration and trafficking in women from the Dominican Republic, through two qualitative studies conducted in source communities, based on interviews, focus groups,
community polls and secondary sources. The aim is to provide information and lay the foundations for an intervention strategy.

Having set out the socio-economic context in which emigration takes place, the study focuses on the situation of the people affected by migration and trafficking: women migrants, their families and daughters, young people and the wider community. The study then describes the impacts of migration on women, relationships with the family and partner, and the community.

The impacts include family break-up, as a result of the mother’s absence, and financial dependency of the family and community on remittances. The study contends that women migrants’ experience in terms of generating income and strengthening self-esteem does not necessarily translate into structural changes in gender relations.

Recommendations for intervention strategies include creating jobs and opportunities for investment of remittances, improving the institutional set-up, providing potential migrants with information, providing the returnees with integrated care, and undertaking further research.

García, Ana Isabel; Barahona, Manuel; Castro, Carlos; Gomáriz, Enrique
Costa Rica: Female Labour Migrants and Trafficking in Women and Children.

The study seeks to describe the situation of female labour migrants, arranging primary and secondary sources methodically, as well as to identify best practices for preventing their exploitation. The study concentrates on Nicaraguans in Costa Rica, with this group making up 78.5% of Costa Rica’s immigrant population.

The introduction gives an overview of the socio-economic situation in the country and the region, general trends in labour migration, female migrants’ living and working conditions and the main problems they face, with special emphasis on women working in domestic service and in the agroindustry, and women subjected to trafficking and sexual exploitation.

The study outlines national and international legislative instruments with respect to immigration, treatment and employment of migrant workers, trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation. The study also evaluates initiatives taken by the Costa Rican Government, such as the amnesty and the provision of health and educational services, and notes the complete absence of the gender dimension in government policies. Private-sector initiatives include projects conducted by associations of household workers, religious organizations and organizations set up by the immigrant population.

The study highlights the need to modernize Costa Rica’s immigration laws by adopting a policy that recognizes the importance of the issue to the country’s development. The study also recommends incorporating the gender dimension in public and private institutions and formulating social policies aimed at tackling discrimination towards foreign women on grounds of gender and nationality.
Holper, Dany

The central theme of the study is how the suffering experienced by Peruvian live-in nannies affects their bodies, revealing interactions of the body at the level of the individual (the human being in the world), the social (engaged in social relations) and the political (within the context of power relations) and of the body with itself (self-esteem and cultural and personal identity). The study focuses on the three most common health problems, which are psychosomatic in nature: weight loss, anxiety and feelings of depression. These problems are attributed to the lack of control and power, as well as unhealthy social relationships in the workplace.

Drawing on in-depth interviews and discussion groups with 30 women whose socio-economic background, legal status and length of time spent in Chile all varied, the study affirms that the women’s experience depends on their relationship with their employer, their own psychological makeup and, to a lesser extent, their relationship vis-à-vis the State. Workplaces are perceived as a prison or a home, depending on working conditions and the way the nanny is treated. Weight loss is explained by power relations, pressure of work, depression and the nature of the work itself. In the worst cases, the problem reveals the loss of the body as itself (autonomy, self-esteem, identity). Anxiety is associated with social and cultural isolation, the situation of vulnerability and a controlling employer, and is closely linked with depression, a result of the absence of children and family, isolation and feeling ignored.

Mora, Luis
Las fronteras de la vulnerabilidad: género, migración y derechos sexuales y reproductivos
[the frontiers of vulnerability: gender, migration and sexual and reproductive rights].

Study of migration processes in Latin America and the Caribbean from a perspective of gender and human rights; examines in particular the sexual and reproductive rights of migrant, displaced, refugee and trafficked women. From a theoretical viewpoint, the study relies on the concept of gender-based vulnerability, a situation that is exacerbated in the context of migration, as in all its stages (recruitment, relocation, transit, arrival), women are more likely to encounter violence, contract sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and engage in sex work as the sole form of employment open to them.

The study proposes a new model of analysis, in which economic causes are complemented by ideologies and gender hierarchies, and considers how these evolve in various “generic power geographies”, particularly in border regions, which represent geographical, social and economic areas with an identity of their own.
The second part examines the sexual and reproductive rights of female migrants in Latin America, relying on numerous case studies, reports by governments and international organizations, including sociodemographic assessments comparing migrants and non-migrants. Among the most urgent problems highlighted are the trafficking in women and children for sex work, the lack of medical care available to all female migrants (displaced persons, refugees and trafficked women), the high rate of sexual abuse, physical assault and infection with HIV/AIDS, unwanted pregnancies and forced or unsafe abortions.

<WOMEN’S RIGHTS> <HEALTH> <THEORY>

014

Morales Gamboa, Abelardo

Situación de los trabajadores migrantes en América Central [report on the situation and characteristics of migrant workers in Central America].


Analysis of the characteristics of labour migration among Central American countries in the 1990s, with the aim to document the migrant population’s working conditions so that governments and social organizations in the region can implement policies and programmes in this regard. The analysis relies on background information and the databases of the Investigation of International Migration in Latin America (IMILA) project carried out by CELADE, secondary sources, interviews of informants and two cases studies: female farm workers in Guatemala and Costa Rica.

Among the findings highlighted are the increase in the labour component, the growth in intraregional flows, a greater degree of diversity among the migrant population and a sizeable female presence. One part of the study is devoted to migrant women as a risk group, particularly in the areas of domestic service and the sex industry. The latter comprises two distinct facets: (a) the industry, which involves mobile populations (women migrants, truckers, tourists, traders), where sex work is either a professional or non-professional activity undertaken for purposes of subsistence or to save money in order to then either move on or return home; and (b) seasonal sex work and trafficking, which includes sex work undertaken during harvesting on plantations, sex tourism and trafficking in large cities.

Recommendations made are to continue updating databases on the characteristics of labour migration, facilitate the exchange of experiences among governments, establish technical assistance services for organizations responsible for migration and labour matters, and oversee support groups and migrants associations.

<STATISTICAL ANALYSIS> <WORKING CONDITIONS> <LABOUR MARKET>

015

OAS

Trafficking in Women and Children: Research Findings and Follow-Up.


http://www.oas.org/cim/XXXI%20Asamblea%20de%20Delegadas/ADdoc-9.ing.DOC

A study of the main features of trafficking in women and children for the purposes of sexual exploitation in the greater Central American region (including the Dominican Republic). The study
is based on the results of an OAS project that included consultations with governments, academic institutions and people directly involved in, and affected by, trafficking, through interviews with experts and case studies.

The study presents the theoretical and conceptual framework with the definitions and methodology used in the research, a socio-economic profile of the countries studied, their main migration patterns and their causes. The study identifies the factors that have a bearing on trafficking in women and children (individual and structural factors), characteristics of the trafficking (methods used, profile of the individuals and organizations concerned, main routes), shortcomings of legal mechanisms and instruments, and national policies designed to prevent and combat the phenomenon.

The study concludes that trafficking constitutes not just a crime, but also a violation of the basic rights of the trafficked women and children. Society’s tolerant attitude and silence, together with the absence or inadequacy of national policies, have contributed to hide the phenomenon and, in many instances, to assist its development. There are no adequate measures in place to combat trafficking, and the data available suggest that traffickers very frequently go unpunished. The paper sets forth a range of recommendations in the regional and national spheres.

<WOMEN’S RIGHTS> <POLICIES> <PROSTITUTION> <TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN>

016

ILO

Estudio de hogares de mujeres nicaragüenses emigrantes en Costa Rica [study of households with female Nicaraguan emigrants in Costa Rica].


Final Version of the Report (July 2001):


Study of Nicaraguan households with members who have emigrated, based on secondary sources, surveys and interviews. Outlines the domestic situation in Nicaragua which gives rise to female labour migration, their main characteristics, and those of their households in Nicaragua, the migrants’ living and working conditions in Costa Rica, the situation of children in these households and gender inequality in their socialization.

The findings underline the relationship between poverty and female labour migration and, against this backdrop, the importance of remittances that women send back to Nicaragua, together with the irregular nature of migration to Costa Rica and its implications. Also highlighted is the family strategy that involves the salaried work of the migrant nanny complemented by the unpaid reproductive work of other women in the household in the community of origin in order to ensure the survival of the family group.

A series of measures are recommended to counteract the processes that migration generates: cooperation between origin and destination countries, and promotion of institutions and organizations that work to defend the human rights of migrants and raise public awareness about the issue. A further recommendation is that tangible initiatives be taken to deal with the negative impact on children of migrant mothers.

<WORKING CONDITIONS> <LIVING CONDITIONS> <FAMILY> <REMITTANCES> <DOMESTIC SERVICE>
A Comparative Study of Women Trafficked in the Migration Process. Patterns, Profiles and Health Consequences of Sexual Exploitation in Five Countries (Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Venezuela and the United States).

A multidisciplinary study conducted in five countries, which details the patterns, profiles and health consequences of sex trafficking, based on interviews with 146 victims of sexual exploitation, internationally and domestically, in the countries studied.

The main push and pull factors are migration policies, gender stereotypes that reproduce the roles of caregiver and sexual object at work, the rise in the number of female-headed households and the breakdown of the traditional family structure, the family’s dependence on income earned by the women, the demand for women migrants in the developed economies, the normalization of sex work and other activities associated with the sex industry.

In Venezuela, the economic crisis, the feminization of poverty and the absence or inadequacy of migration policies have all led to an increase in illegal immigration. Women enter the country with tourist visas to find employment as domestic servants and many of them end up being sexually exploited and trafficked as sex worker. Popular culture and the media have exalted women’s beauty, through the promotion of beauty contests and Miss Nude competitions, to the detriment of personal development and the fostering of women’s rights.

Interviews conducted with 41 women (Colombians, Dominicans, Ecuadoreans, Venezuelans and one Cuban) working as sex workers in Venezuela show that most had engaged in sex work prior to migrating and that customers demand oral, anal and sadistic sex.

The findings and recommendations of the study cover: (a) legalization or decriminalization of sex work; (b) material assistance for women involved in the sex industry; (c) implementation of international and regional initiatives; (d) measures aimed at curbing sex trafficking and protecting the victims; and (e) initiatives to prosecute traffickers and customers.

Study of temporary immigration for work purposes, and transmigration to the United States, of women from Central America in the southern border area of Mexico, based on official data, surveys of civil organizations and case studies.
A common feature of both streams is their temporary nature and the large number of undocumented people involved. Women migrants work mainly in agriculture, domestic service, commerce and the sex industry. Those heading for the United States also take part in these activities, with a view to earning enough money to continue their trip towards the United States.

The women who work in private homes come mainly from the indigenous districts of Guatemala. Typically, they are young women who send money to their families to assist them financially, and who face insecure working conditions. The women working in agriculture are also young and come from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

The sex workers in the urban centres of Mexico’s southern border and the women working in bars are also predominantly from Central America, and include Guatemalans, followed by Salvadorans and Hondurans. They are, for the most part, young unmarried women who are working out of economic necessity, and are often escaping from domestic violence in their original place of residence. They may spend anywhere from three months to two years in Mexico. Sex work carries with it a number of risks for women migrants, in terms of their health and sexual violence.

Assessment of the available data shows that the patterns of migration of Central American women to Mexico do not reflect androcentric migration models, since female migration is not bound to that of men and family reunion is not the motivation for the relocation.

Stefoni, Carolina  

Article on the situation of the Peruvian migrant community in Chile, with a focus on women employed as domestic servants.

Presents an overview of the features of Peruvian migration with an historical perspective. Using census data, information supplied by the Department of Immigration and secondary sources, the article documents the high female component in the migration flow to Chile. There is a dearth of official figures, but it is assumed that most female Peruvian immigrants are employed in paid domestic work, due in the first instance to a drop in the number of Chilean women working in this area. The article states that the existence of ideological factors, such as the lack of awareness among these Peruvian women about demanding their rights, leads to a relationship marked by power and submission between employer and employee. The stigma attached to domestic service is reinforced by other methods of exclusion and by cultural images disseminated by the media. Against this backdrop, and given that Chile will probably continue to attract immigrants, one of the greatest challenges is to deconstruct the discourses of marginalization and promote tolerance of diversity in order to ensure that the migrant community is integrated.
Bonelli Jáudenes, Elena (coord.); Ulloa Jiménez, Marcela (coord.)

*Tráfico e inmigración de mujeres en España. Colombianas y ecuatorianas en los servicios domésticos y sexuales* [trafficking and immigration of women in Spain. Colombian and Ecuadorean women’s involvement in domestic and sexual services].


The research consists of a sociological study, based on detailed interviews with Ecuadorean and Colombian women working as domestic servants and street prostitutes in Madrid, as well as Colombian women working in clubs and “discreet apartments” in Galicia; a legal study, with interviews with social actors and a review of the literature; and an examination of the information featured in four journals on immigration by these women.

One noteworthy feature of globalization is the advent and growth of female migration streams, in which women initiate the move to migrate of their own accord in search of work. The prevailing trend is for women to engage in devalued reproductive tasks, notably domestic service and sex work; there has been a noted increase in transnational sex work, as well as a rise in demand for domestic services in different regions of the world.

In the legal sphere, one of the key problems is the status of women and the instruments available to them to enforce their rights, a situation which is worsen still for illegal immigrants.

The way the media handles the issue of female migration is by linking it almost exclusively to sex work; the media present an image of women as victims tricked by crime rings, thereby contributing to their rejection and stigmatization.

The sociological study gathers and analyses information from interviews and group discussions and covers the methods of trafficking and immigration, the stages of the migration process, integration into the labour market and the community, the sex work scene, the chain of financial links in the sex industry and an investigation into domestic service.

<WOMEN’S RIGHTS> <DISCRIMINATION> <PROSTITUTION> <DOMESTIC SERVICE> <TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN>
Cacopardo, María Cristina; Maguid, Alicia M.
Migrantes limítrofes y desigualdad de género en el mercado laboral del Área Metropolitana de Buenos Aires [migrants from neighbouring countries and gender inequality in the labour market of the Buenos Aires Metropolitan Area].

Analysis of immigration from countries neighbouring Argentina to the Buenos Aires Metropolitan Area, with emphasis on migrant women and female heads of household. The paper seeks to identify gender differences in the ways in which migrants enter the labour market. The paper offers a comparative analysis of the situation of migrant and non-migrant communities in the Buenos Aires Metropolitan Area, comparing male and female migrants and female migrants and non-migrants, based on data from the Permanent Household Survey.

The paper outlines the economic situation in the Buenos Aires Metropolitan Area, with emphasis on the changes that have occurred since 1993, and then analyses the implications of this for migrants’ entry into the labour market. The second part focuses on the women’s family environment, taking into account four variables: marital status, the presence of children under 6 years old, position in the household and factors related to the life cycle. Of particular note are the high rates of labour force participation of women immigrants who are heads of household and mothers with a larger number of children than non-migrants, a situation that reflects their greater vulnerability.

The findings point to a significant degree of inequality between migrants and non-migrants in terms of entry into the labour market, and in terms of the quality of employment and income, with women migrants coming off worse.

Chiarotti, Susana
La protección de los derechos humanos de las y los migrantes. Instrumentos y mecanismos del sistema ONU [the protection of human rights of male and female migrants. Instruments and mechanisms of the UN system].

The author contends that female migration is different in its implications and features from that of men, in that women’s human rights are more vulnerable (e.g., sexual violence, trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation, infection with HIV/AIDS).

The author reviews the various mechanisms of the United Nations system for demanding and defending those rights, outlining three different procedures: (1) addressing a petition to organizations set up by virtue of treaties (on the condition that the country in question has signed and ratified them); (2) the 1503 procedure for denouncing violations of rights enshrined in the
Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which may lead to the adoption of definitive decisions by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights; and (3) the use of mechanisms not covered by conventions and concerned with special rapporteurs or representatives, such as the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants. The results may depend on which procedure is used.

**023**

Cranshaw, Martha Isabel


The paper summarizes and interprets the findings of various studies carried out by the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO) Nicaragua, with the goal of foregrounding women as actors in the migration process and identifying the primary policy challenges for the country.

The paper identifies the sociodemographic characteristics of Nicaraguan migrants, and their living and working conditions in Costa Rica, evaluating the costs and benefits in economic and social terms.

The findings highlight the role of women in social networks, where they often appear as the tip of the migratory chain, with the role of manager of the family unit and of provider, responsible for additional tasks when it is the man who emigrates. The paper also looks at access to rights and citizenship, the exercise of democracy, and the impact of emigration on development.

The author asserts that Nicaragua faces the following challenges: creating productive alternatives to discourage emigration; generating information about the costs and benefits of migration and about protection mechanisms inside and outside the country; raising women’s awareness about a more equitable division of housework among members of the family; getting the unions of Central America to consider the issue of migrant workers; and ensuring the migrant community takes part in the electoral process.

**024**

Davis, Benjamin; Winters, Paul

*Gender, Networks and Mexico-US Migration.* pp. 1-26: diagrs., tbls.; incl. ref.


ECLAC Library: X/J 4.6(2/2001) (89892)


The authors examine the patterns of immigration from rural Mexicans to the United States, and ask whether such patterns vary significantly according to gender. Different arguments are contrasted, with an emphasis on the role of migrants’ social networks. The data extracted from a national survey of rural households in Mexico reveal major differences in the factors that cause male and female migration.

The first section reviews the various migration models and the gender implications, including neoclassical, family unit and social network theories. The authors assert that it is not
necessary to change explanatory models in order to analyse migration processes with a gender perspective, but rather introduce new parameters. The theory suggests that female migration follows the same models as male migration, but differs from the latter in the sense that the explanatory variables have a bearing on the decision to migrate.

Empirical data are used to analyse the different effects that the following variables have on the decision to migrate, according to gender: individual and household variables (age, access to land), social networks, regional and community variables (infrastructure). The decision to migrate is then examined, with the data broken down by destination and occupation; it is asserted that, for women, the destination is determined to a large extent by the existence of social networks.

The authors conclude that, for female migration, family male networks appear to be more of an influential factor than family female migration, on account of the patriarchal structure of the family and the risks entailed in crossing the United States border. Nevertheless, female networks have a major influence on the destination of female migrants. According to the authors, the results of their study support the use of the gender perspective in the study of migration. As regards stemming migration, they suggest that a policy focusing on male migrants’ social networks has a greater chance of success.

De los Reyes, Paulina

Article on internal migration in Latin America, where female rates have traditionally been higher than those of men. In the introduction, the author criticizes theories that view the migrant as a male worker and migration as a genderless process. The author contends that the migration process has a gender impact that varies in accordance with the social and cultural context, both in the society of origin and in the host society. The situation of the women migrant in the host society is a function not only of her immigration status, but also of the fact that she is subject to two cultural systems characterized by gender inequality.

The author presents an overview of the continuities and changes in female migration patterns starting from the 1950s, distinguishing two stages: the era of import substitution (1950-1970) and the era of political crisis and structural adjustment, with a focus on the 1990s.

The author concludes that, at the end of the twentieth century, female migration is characterized by greater variety and complexity as regards origin and destination, age of migrants and entry into the labour market. The share of women’s wages in the total family income has risen, leading to a weakening of the traditional model of the male head of the family and greater acceptance of the two-wage model. This development has also had an impact on gender relations within the household. However, there remains the persistent problem of the lack of equivalence between the educational level of women migrants, their occupational status and their pay.
Gallardo Rivas, Gina

Tráfico de mujeres desde la República Dominicana con fines de explotación sexual [trafficking in women from the Dominican Republic for the purposes of sexual exploitation].

Santo Domingo: IOM; Ministry of Women’s Affairs (SEM), 2001.

Update of a study carried out by IOM on trafficking in women from the Dominican Republic, which sought to analyse changes in this situation, its dynamics and the responses from the local authorities in the period 1996-2001.

The study begins with an introduction to the conceptual framework of trafficking in women, and then indicates the extent of the phenomenon in the Dominican Republic; the Dominican Republic is fourth on the list of countries whose women are engaged in sex work outside their national borders. Leading causes include structural factors, such as changing production patterns and the increase in social conflicts on the island, and individual factors, such as the existence of networks and intermediaries who facilitate the migration process.

The responses of the countries of origin and destination to trafficking are spelled out, and it is noted that freeing up ways of legal entry, authorised by certain countries in order to allow migrants to exercise specific jobs (for example, visas for domestic service, in the case of Spain and Switzerland), has caused trafficking to decline.

In the Dominican Republic, public opinion still does not consider the issue to be important. Nonetheless, NGOs and other organizations of civil society are attempting to tackle the problem. In 1996, an inter-agency body was set up to tackle the issue and recently, the Ministry of Women’s Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have developed and implemented programmes to combat trafficking. The study concludes that, in spite of the efforts made, sufficient attention has not yet been paid to trafficking and that legal mechanisms to deal with the problem are non-existent. The paper concludes with a range of policy recommendations.

Harzig, Christiane


Historical perspective on migration. Although the emphasis is on female migration in Europe, it is possible to draw out various aspects of theoretical interest concerning the decision to migrate, and the role of women in migration systems and transnational communities.

The author sets out the theory of migration systems that views migration as a movement with complex trajectories (contrary to the traditional “push-pull” model). There are systems and subsystems that are differentiated by time, origin, and objective, in which women exercise essential roles. As members of a family, they are, for example, responsible for managing the family’s wages; as independent migrants, women can choose to work in a factory or get involved in protests or strikes; as skilled women, they may be contributing to the brain drain.
The author points out that women play a decisive role in the establishment of transnational communities, and that the process of adjusting from past experiences to the new reality of the host society also serves as an opportunity for renegotiating gender relations.

The author states that there are three levels of decision-making when it comes to initiating the migration process. The “macro” level encompasses the structural economic and political context, migration systems and government regulations. The “micro” level has to do with individual experience and rational decision-making (derived from economic theory). As a third level, the author introduces the “meso” level, which serves as a link between the first two levels and comprises transnational social networks, household strategies and decisions and relations between the individual male or female migrant and the State.

The author concludes that in order for migration policy to be effective, it is essential to take into account the mental maps of women migrants and the complexities of transnational networks.

The article provides a comparative analysis of the different types of female immigration in Spain and entry into the labour market of Dominican, Filipino and Maghrebi women, based on secondary sources. The article also examines the attitudes of the Spanish population towards immigrants.

The authors indicate that both a woman’s decision to migrate and her entry into the labour market in the destination country depend on the sociocultural environment and her previous status in the original place of residence, her position in the life cycle and her ethnicity. There are different types and subtypes of migration in which women of certain nationalities predominate. For instance, independent migration undertaken to provide financial support to dependants back home tends to be associated more with Dominicans. These women also normally play the role of the pioneer in the migration chain, reuniting with their family once they have settled down. Maghrebi women usually migrate alongside their partner. Filipinas migrate on their own, as part of a strategy to support the family through remittances.

Female migrants’ labour market participation is notable for their marginalization in the types of jobs rejected by the non-migrant population, since these jobs lack job security, are not tied to contracts and pay low wages. Dominican and Filipino women show high rates of participation in the labour force, with a significant number employed as domestic servants, whereas Maghrebi women are less involved in productive activity, due to restrictive cultural norms and unfamiliarity with the language.
Kofman, Eleonore; Sales, Rosemary

Consecuencias de la política de la UE sobre mujeres inmigrantes de áreas no comunitarias [consequences of European union policy on female migrants from non-European Union countries]. pp. 227-243.

The article outlines the measures adopted by national governments and European Union institutions with respect to immigrants from countries that are not part of the Union, and their specific impact on female immigrants. The various policy areas touched on are the right to citizenship, political asylum, family reunion, and labour regulations concerning immigrants. It is asserted that, while female immigration to the countries of the European Union has been on the increase, the significance of this trend has been neglected.

The authors state that, notwithstanding recommendations by the European Parliament to incorporate migrants’ rights in community migration policies, each country sets its own policy, and this, as a general rule, is increasingly restrictive. Furthermore, while many migration policies do not explicitly discriminate against women, they have arbitrary impacts on female migrants, due to the assumption that these women arrive as dependants of male migrants. This state of affairs restricts female migrants’ conditions of entry and residence, as well as their access to employment and social and citizenship benefits, thereby reinforcing dependent relationships and forcing many women to work informally.

The authors conclude that the countries’ move towards restrictive immigration policies, combined with political integration of the European Community, is creating some degree of uncertainty about future migration laws. The transfer of some policy areas to the European level and growing inclusion of NGOs in the decision-making process are raising hopes for a more democratic debate on the issue, but national governments continue to enforce restrictive policies.

Leite, M. Jaqueline

Tráfico de mujeres en Brasil [Trafficking in women in Brazil]. pp. 265-274.

Analysis of how the trafficking in women operates in Brazil, based on the experiences of two NGOs: the Information Centre for African, Asian and Latin American Women (FIZ), in Switzerland; and the Humanitarian Centre for Support to Women (CHAME), in Salvador-Bahia, Brazil. The article asserts that the aim is not to prevent emigration of Brazilian women, but rather to reveal the different forms of violence against women that such emigration entails, given that it is difficult to prove that women are forced into trafficking.

The article begins with a theoretical discussion of the term ‘trafficking’, its use and limitations, and then identifies the various forms of recruitment and the main problems facing women, including racism, psychological and physical violence, cultural differences, and health problems. The article points out that the Brazilian Government has contributed to the growth in sex
tourism by emphasizing the sensuality and beauty of Brazilian women in tourism advertising campaigns.

The article concludes that trafficking and sex tourism are not phenomena limited to Brazil, but are part of an international system of patriarchal domination, which provides benefits to the country of origin (reduced unemployment, rise in living standards of some families thanks to migrants’ remittances) as well as the country of destination (cheap labour).

<DISCRIMINATION> <PROSTITUTION> <TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN>

031

Lipszyc, Cecilia

*Mujeres migrantes en la Argentina contemporánea. Especial énfasis en Bolivia, Paraguay y Perú* [women migrants in contemporary Argentina. Special emphasis on Bolivia, Paraguay and Peru].


http://www.repem.org.uy/docartypon_migraciones_%20clipsz.htm

Using a gender perspective, the report examines contemporary immigration in Argentina and the discrimination faced by the migrant population, with an emphasis on immigrants from Paraguay, Peru and Bolivia. The report is based on census data and secondary research.

The report contends that today’s migration movements to Argentina differ from previous ones in terms of origin (a decline in immigration from overseas and a rise in immigration from neighbouring countries) and their high female component. Women migrants assume an active role in the search for alternative means to support the family, but they also endure multiple forms of discrimination that exacerbate their living conditions. As regards migration from neighbouring countries, the growing importance of Buenos Aires as a destination, particularly for women, is noted. Women migrants’ labour force participation rate is higher than that of non-migrants and is characterized by a large degree of segmentation. The report states that female migration combines aspects of the autonomous and associative model: women migrants are no longer migrating exclusively as dependants, but their decision to migrate continues to be subordinate to the survival of the household.

As regards the relationship between women migrants and the State, it is noted that problems like the lack of documentation result in a similar vulnerability for men and women alike. However, undocumented female migrants have less access to public services than female non-migrants. The report concludes that public policies should guarantee the equality of the migrant population and respect their cultural differences.

<WORKING CONDITIONS> <LIVING CONDITIONS> <DISCRIMINATION>
032

United Nations. ECLAC. CELADE
Resumen y aspectos destacados del Simposio sobre Migración Internacional en las Américas [summary and highlights of the Symposium on International Migration in the Americas].
ECLAC Library: LC/L.1529-P. INT UN/SO 65(14/2001) (87777)

Compilation of abstracts of papers presented at the Symposium on International Migration in the Americas, held in San José in Costa Rica, in September 2000. The paper is divided into five topic-related parts, in line with the working sessions of the Symposium.

The first part examines the main trends in migration in Latin America and the Caribbean, and stresses the feminization of intraregional migration. The second part analyses the relationship between migration and development, dealing with globalization and its impact on regional integration, changes in the economies and labour markets of origin and destination countries, migration of skilled labour, and migration’s social impacts. In this context, mention is made of the link between female migration, reproductive health, gender relations and the specific problems and rights of female migrants. The third part deals with the issue of governability, efforts to tackle the problem through multilateral diplomacy, such as the Santiago Initiative and the Puebla Group, and the role of international and non-governmental organizations. The fourth part discusses migration’s economic and social impact, with special consideration of remittances, migration networks and migrant organizations; noteworthy among the latter are the organizations of Peruvians and Dominicans in Argentina, which also concern themselves with gender-related issues. The final part examines the human rights of the migrant community.

033

United Nations. Population Division
ST/ESA/SER.A/192.
ECLAC Library: 312.2/N962W(2000) (88993)

The publication is divided into five chapters on population and gender: family formation, health and mortality, gender and the elderly, internal migration, and international migration. For the purposes of this bibliography, consideration is given only to chapter five, which examines the issue of voluntary and forced migration with a gender perspective.

The publication highlights the high degree of feminization of migration in the international arena, female migrants’ labour force participation and the difficulties of analysis due to the lack of reliable data. The document states that few national and international migration policies specifically target female migrants, in spite of the fact that evidence shows that the regulations in force have an impact that is differentiated according to gender. Policies that target women in particular have been piecemeal and designed to redress situations of vulnerability (such as labour exploitation and trafficking). It is asserted that there is a need for broader approaches that consider the social causes of vulnerability.
Rivera, Freddy
*Migrantes y racismo en América Latina: dimensiones ocultas de realidades complejas* [migrants and racism in Latin America: hidden dimensions of complex realities].
ECLAC. IIDH. Meeting of experts on racism and gender, Santiago, Chile, 4 and 5 June 2001. 56 pp.
http://www.eclac.cl/mujer/publicaciones/sinsigla/xml/8/6828/migrantes.PDF

Analysis of migration in Latin America from a cultural and human rights perspective. The author asserts that globalization has created a tension between complimentarity and economic integration, on the one hand, and the resurgence of new forms of nationalism, on the other. Migration produces cultural tensions in host societies, especially large cities, where people necessarily come face to face every day with the “other”. The document examines the relationship between democracy, human rights and multiculturalism as “the duty to be”, and then goes on to examine the main shortcomings of public policies and the challenges and limitations that hamper increased protection of the rights of the migrant community.

*ASSIMILATION OF MIGRANTS* <DISCRIMINATION> <ETHNIC FACTORS>

Villa, Miguel; Martínez Pizarro, Jorge
*Tendencias y patrones de la migración internacional en América Latina y el Caribe* [trends and patterns in international migration in Latin America and the Caribbean]. pp. 51-99: diagrs., tbls.; incl. ref.
Notas de Población, 28 (73), September 2001.
ECLAC Library: LC/G.2124-P. INT CELADE/SO 5(73/2001) (89255)
http://www.eclac.cl/publicaciones/Poblacion/4/LCG2124P/lcg2124P_2.pdf

Article on the main patterns and trends in migration in Latin America and the Caribbean, based on information compiled by the project on Investigation of International Migration in Latin America (IMILA) carried out by CELADE.

The authors outline the major patterns of migration to Latin America from abroad—a declining trend in recent decades—, intraregional migration—which has increased due to inequalities in economic and social development—and emigration from the region to the United States.

The authors assert that examination of migration throughout the Americas shows that men predominate. In contrast, intraregional migration shows a trend towards greater female participation. In the authors' view, this is due primarily to entry into service activities, including domestic service.

Other topics dealt with are skilled migration and the impacts of migration on the individual and structural spheres in origin and destination countries.

The authors conclude with a reflection on future trends in migration in the socio-economic context of the region, in light of the drive towards regional integration.

*STATISTICAL ANALYSIS* <ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT>
Wijers, Marjan  
Política de la Unión Europea sobre el tráfico de mujeres [European Union policy on trafficking in women]. pp. 245-266.  

The author summarizes the course of the debate over women trafficking in women in the European context, indicating the main problems in defining the phenomenon and formulating regulations in the European and international spheres.

The author contends that trafficking in women can be approached using different perspectives: as a problem of morality, law and order, organized crime, undocumented immigration, human rights or working conditions. Each has its own consequences, in terms of political measures and the impact on trafficked women’s lives. Two strategies stand out: one is repressive, designed to curb trafficking and sex work as an undesirable trade; the other, an empowering strategy, employed by NGOs, aimed at improving the living and working conditions of the women who engage in sex work. It poses a challenge to traditional approaches by advocating decriminalization of this sort of work in order to protect the rights of the women involved in it.

The author concludes that both strategies may be of benefit, though the repressive strategy needs to be implemented with care, since it may result in arbitrary and undesired impacts on the women who are victims of sex trafficking.

<WOMEN’S RIGHTS> <MIGRATION POLICY> <TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN>

Ángeles Cruz, Hugo Manuel; Rojas Wiesner, Martha Luz  
La migración femenina internacional en la frontera sur de México [international female migration on the southern border of Mexico]. pp. 127-151.  
Papeles de Población, 6 (23), 2000.

Analysis of labour migration of women from Central America in the coastal and border regions of the Mexican State of Chiapas.

The first part presents a critical overview of the theoretical frameworks used in the study of female migration, concentrating on the neoclassical theory, the structuralist theory and the theory of household strategies. The latter is viewed as the most relevant, in terms of theory and methodology, for the study of migration differentiated by gender, on the condition that consideration is given to the family’s internal power structures and the implications of these for the women.

Relying on official data and case studies, the second part focuses on the characteristics and working conditions of women in two different migration streams. The first consists of labour migration by women of Central America to the Soconusco region to undertake farm work, domestic service and commercial sex work. The main problem here is the distinction between “worker” and “companion”, because in the authors’ view women classified as companions normally work for
money, despite not having a permit to do so. The second migration stream is that of transmigrants, who arrive in southern Mexico with the intention of heading to the northern border and crossing to the United States. In recent decades, this movement has grown and the places where these transmigrants originate have grown more varied. The majority of these transmigrants are from El Salvador, followed by Guatemala and Honduras.

The authors conclude that such is the complexity of migration patterns on Mexico’s southern border that there is a need for models of analysis that do not consider women as a mere numerical aggregate in traditional streams, but rather as actors in their own migration experience. In terms of methodology, the inadequacy of existing methods is stressed, as is the absence of methodically arranged statistical data on female migrants in the region in question.

Ariza, Marina
La migración femenina como objeto de estudio [female migration as a subject of study], pp. 27-59.

A brief overview of the research history on female migration. The article provides a critical description of the prevailing theories and perspectives, including the theory of modernization, the neoclassical and equilibrium approaches, the historical-structural approach, the family unit perspective and that of economic sociology. The article investigates the new analytical approach entailed in the use of the gender perspective in this field of study, and identifies the methodological problems and requirements in the study of the issue.

One of the first consequences of the use of the gender perspective on female migration was the recognition of women migrants as workers or people who relocate for work-related purposes rather than as mere “associate migrants”. A review of the main issues in the study of migration spotlights the proposals that gender introduces by tackling the breakdown of migration by sex, family structure and dynamic, labour markets, public and private spheres, networks and social identity.

These proposals reveal: (a) the construction of gender with regard to causes, consequences, diversity and duration of the movements, including changes in relationship patterns between the genders and in the woman’s situation of subordination/autonomy; (b) the effect of work outside the home on female migrants’ circumstances and the life-changing impact of migration as work experience; (c) the positive impact of migration on the public and private spheres insofar as it promotes greater public exposure of women and restricts the public space of men; and (d) the highly significant and differentiated role of female networks and their role as a social resource for contending with male power and authority, and as an opportunity for recreating one’s own social identity.
039

Daeren, Lieve

Género en la migración laboral internacional en América Latina y el Caribe: pautas para “buenas prácticas” en la formulación de políticas y programas dirigidos a trabajadoras y trabajadores migrantes [gender in international labour migration in Latin America and the Caribbean: guidelines for “good practices” when formulating policies and programmes aimed at male and female migrant workers].

http://www.eclac.cl/mujer/proyectos/gtz/publicaciones/word_doc/migracionlaboral.doc

The author proposes a number of factors that need to be considered in order to identify policies and programmes aimed at migrant workers and their families, from a gender perspective. The following are proposed as “best practices”:

1. Generate data broken down by sex and of a comparative nature, concerning the different facets of international labour migration, since there is a scarcity of research on the situation of women and female migrant workers;
2. Value the contribution of female migrants to the economic, social and cultural development of host countries and reinforce their position as both workers and providers of their family, given that, up till now, this contribution has been made invisible or underestimated;
3. Pay special attention to female migrants in precarious circumstances, particularly those who are working as domestic servants or sex workers;
4. Reclaim the diversity of female labour migrants, in terms of socio-economic status, education, labour skills, etc.;
5. Implement policies and actions that reinforce the autonomy of female migrants and their organization, setting aside stereotypes about roles and responsibilities of men and women;
6. Pay attention to requirements relating to biological, social and cultural reproduction, with the aim of reconciling financial and work responsibilities with social and family responsibilities; and
7. Promote non-discriminatory cultural norms, values and practices towards women.

040

Gender and Society Foundation

Memoria Seminario-Taller: mujeres, niños y niñas migrantes [report on the Seminar/workshop: Migrant women, boys and girls].

Publication in English added to the Library (85434).
ECLAC Library: 304.83/F981M (85433)

Compilation of papers presented at the Seminar-workshop “Migrant women, boys and girls” conducted in San Salvador, as part of the Action Plan of the Regional Conference on Migration (Puebla Process). The papers address the situation faced by migrant women, boys and girls from the perspective of non-governmental organizations, as well as UNIFEM, UNICEF, the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), Casa Alianza and the Centre for Justice and International Law (CEJIL).

The compilation includes a submission by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) about conceptual and policy frameworks, the main instruments for protection of migrant
women, boys and girls, an overview of migration policies in the region, and the problems and challenges in relation to migration by women and children. The paper sets out recommendations for improving female migrants’ conditions as regards information, policies, institutions, access to services, labour and cultural considerations and human rights.

The central topics of discussion of the group work were: the policy framework; access to services; conditions of employment; human rights; and cultural issues. Each group concentrated on identifying problems and needs; the main challenges and possible solutions, concrete activities and priority recommendations. These focused on three points: (a) undertaking diagnostic studies in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of the conditions facing migrant women, boys and girls in the region, involving analysis of the legal and factual spheres, with the objective of carrying out tangible activities; (b) incorporating statistical data on migration in censuses and population surveys that include these vulnerable population groups and; (c) acknowledging the importance of coordinating action between government bodies and civil society in the countries, with the goal of providing a positive response to this situation.

041

Hernández González, Pedro
Atención a inmigrantes laborales peruanos en Santiago: una experiencia de la solidaridad y la cultura de acogida [treatment of Peruvian labour migrants in Santiago: an experience of solidarity and a culture of acceptance].

Overview of the experience of working with Peruvian immigrants and the results of a survey carried out by the Chilean Catholic Institute of Migration (INCAMI). Reveals the high percentage of women in the Peru-Chile stream (65%), who find employment chiefly as domestic servants. The description of other variables reveals a relatively high level of education, the predominance of young people, and the economic rationale for migration.

The document concludes with a summary of INCAMI activities and sets down some of the challenges facing Chilean society and politicians in the light of growing Peruvian immigration.

042

Hernández, Berenice (coord.)
Las mujeres inmigrantes latinoamericanas en Alemania [female immigrants from Latin America in Germany].

Collection of four articles on the circumstances of female immigrants from Latin America in Germany from a gender perspective.

The first article briefly describes the feminist debate about female migration and the risks involved, such as, for example, the victimization or idealization of the women. The debate about German identity and the identity of others encompasses economic, social and cultural aspects.
The second and third articles, which are based on the experiences of two NGOs working with Latin American immigrants in Germany, provide a detailed description of their living and working conditions, their problems in finding employment and the legal obstacles they encounter.

The fourth article, which was written by a psychologist who treats female immigrants, approaches the issue from the perspective of identity, analysing the feelings of nostalgia and distance experienced by women, the construction of new spaces and the preservation of ties with the women’s place of origin.

Hondagneu-Sotelo, Pierrette

Feminism and Migration. pp. 107-120.

Analysis of the intersection between gender studies and migration studies. The author contends that feminism and immigration have been two important forces in the changes that have occurred in the United States in the last 30 years. However, she points out that there has been only a limited connection between the two movements and that migration studies are only slowly beginning to incorporate feminist concepts.

The article sets out in chronological order the evolution of feminist analysis in migration studies, distinguishing three phases: first, that of “women and migration”, which focused on rectifying the absence of women in research programmes: this approach constituted a first major step, but underestimated and ignored the importance of power relationships and social change, considering gender as a more or less static factor. The second phase acknowledged the fluidity in gender relations and concentrated on analysing their impact on the decision to migrate: nevertheless, the research focused on the home environment, assuming that gender was restricted to the private sphere. The third phase began to consider gender as an essential element in migration processes, while also studying its relationship with the entry into the labour market, citizenship, ethnic identity, and migration policies, among other factors.

The author concludes that gender continues to be marginalized as a category of analysis, but that there are promising developments in research, though these have been embraced more enthusiastically in fields other than migration studies. The author indicates that if this trend is maintained, it may be that these studies are discredited.

Hochschild, Arlie Russell

Global Care Chains and Emotional Surplus Value. pp. 130-146.

The chapter is based on Rhacel Parrenas’ work on the globalization of mothering based on the case of a Filipina migrant resident in the United States, which forms part of what the author calls “global care chains.” These refer to a series of personal links between people throughout the
world, based on paid or unpaid care work involving primarily women. In its most common form, an older daughter of a poor family looks after her siblings, while her mother works as a nanny looking after the children of another woman who has emigrated, and who in turn takes care of the child of a family in a rich country.

It is asserted that the literature on globalization pays scant attention to global links between the children of the providers of services and the children of recipients of those services. In the course of this process, there is a transfer of feelings, a redirection of these with a new object on which to project them. In spite of unhappy experiences, since the start of the 1990s, 55% of emigrants from the Philippines have been women and their remittances represent one of the major sources of foreign exchange.

Three perspectives are put forward for understanding care chains: (a) the primordialist, for whom the proper thing would be for everyone to look after their own family in their own country; (b) the sunshine modernist, for whom care chains are an inevitable part of globalization; and (c) the critical modernist, with a global sense of ethics, who is concerned about the well-being of Filipino children in their country and experiences contradictory feelings. One tangible solution would be to involve the parents in looking after the children; responsibility for the task would extend laterally and would not be transferred from top to bottom of the global social ladder.

Overview of female migration and its impact on women’s autonomy. Though the article refers mainly to Asian countries, similar patterns to those observed are reflected in many migration movements from and within Latin America. The author states that women are empowered as a result of a number of changes that occur during the migration process, including: (a) distancing oneself from the authoritarian and often patriarchal structures of the place of origin; (b) change from a family-based mode of production to one that is more entrepreneurial; (c) the transition from a rural environment to an urban one; (d) the undertaking of paid work; (e) the experiences and influences of people from outside the family; (f) greater independence in decision-making; and (g) new type of contact with other women, marked by exchange and solidarity.

Processes that reduce women migrants’ power include the loss of major existing support systems in the place of origin, the violation of the women’s rights and the control exercised over them by trafficking rings or their employers. In addition, many women migrants experience a drop in social standing, and are obliged to accept poorly paid work.

Women who remain in the country of origin are another category studied; here the analysis focuses on the impacts of the migration of family members, in terms of the acquisition of new goods, ideas and innovations. The author contends that the absence of men means that women must take on additional tasks and obligations, but also provides them with greater autonomy in making certain decisions and enhances their self-esteem.

The author recommends giving consideration to the gender dimension in migration policies, in relation to emigration/immigration and entry into the labour market, among other aspects, taking
into account women’s greater vulnerability. The author emphasizes that the migration process creates new power structures: to the traditional patriarchal forces (fathers, husbands, brothers) are added others, such as those of recruitment agencies involved in trafficking, employers, and male co-workers and customers, all of whom may contribute to disempower women.

Izquierdo Escribano, Antonio


The author reviews the different motivations of male and female immigrants in Spain, relying on analysis of a survey conducted by the Centre for Sociological Research (CIS). The author seeks to understand the reasons for migration to Spain, breaking with the stereotypical image of the illiterate immigrant and revealing the diversity of the migrant population, according to gender and nationality. The results reveal that immigrants have a medium-to-average level of education (higher for women than for men), and that their main motivation is financial improvement. However, other reasons show differences according to gender: while men stress political reasons or the search for greater freedom, the principal motivation for women is family reunion. Similarly, women show greater interest in studying and acquiring skills. For Latin America, the motivation for immigration varies according to country: working and generating income are the most important reasons cited by Dominican women who migrate, while Argentinian and Peruvian women point to family-related reasons.

The final section analyses motivations according to the year of arrival in Spain, distinguishing three periods of political regulation: the “pre-legal”, prior to 1985, the “pre-political”, prior to 1991, and the strictly “political”, starting from the first regularization in 1991.

Pellegrino, Adela; Macadar, Daniel


The study analyses information obtained from the census database of the project on Investigation of International Migration in Latin America (IMILA) to identify the dominant patterns and profile of Latin American and Caribbean migration. After a review of the historical context and the major trends in Latin American migration movements, the authors concentrate their analysis on four regions: Central America and Mexico, the Caribbean, the Andean Region and the Southern Region. The study also includes information on flows towards the United States and Canada.
The main trends reveal that: (1) emigration towards the United States is a phenomenon of major significance; (2) Argentina is the leading host country in the subregion, after Venezuela; and (3) Peruvian emigration towards different countries of the region is increasing. Women predominate in some migration flows (especially towards the United States) and migrants have, on average, a lower level of educational attainment than national citizens (with the case of Peru being the exception). The study presents evidence of growing flows of skilled migrants, with the United States as the chief destination.

<STATISTICAL ANALYSIS> <HISTORICAL ANALYSIS> <SKILLED MIGRATION>

048

Raghuram, Parvati


Analysis of skilled migration with a gender perspective. Evaluates the theoretical approaches that are supposedly gender-neutral but are implicitly androcentric, together with approaches of feminist literature on unskilled female migration, to show how migration of skilled women challenges these conceptions. The study proposes an approach that draws a link between the structural models and models centred on the family unit.

The first part refers to the absence of women in analyses of skilled migration, and criticizes traditional models. The second part looks at the presence of women in skilled international migration, both as primary migrants and as spouses, relying on several case studies of the Asian region. The third part analyses feminist literature on international migration and affirms that this has helped to foreground women and their contribution to the household income, but has had a particular emphasis on unskilled migration. The fourth part outlines some aspects of the experience of skilled women migrants that distinguishes them from men and unskilled women (groups that up till now formed the focus of migration studies), including marital status, family composition and negotiation of gender relations, dealing with immigration regulations and assessment of skills in the labour market.

The article underlines the need to analyse migration as the outcome of a complex process of negotiation between professional careers and changes in international labour markets and immigration regulations. The decision of the family unit and individual objectives come into play in this process.

<SKILLED MIGRATION> <THEORY>

049

Ramírez Bautista, Elia


This methodical review of recent immigration by Latin Americans into Europe (Spain, Greece, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Italy, England, Germany, Austria, Belgium and Denmark)
stresses the feminization of migration streams. It is based on secondary sources and various reports by NGOs who work with migrant women.

The main findings include the following: (1) the chief motivation for migration is financial improvement (often as part of a family strategy); (2) there are greater numbers of independent migrants and women are playing an active role in the migration process; (3) women find employment in domestic service, entertainment in bars and clubs and sex work; (4) the role of demand for women from the South in these sectors (for structural and ideological reasons); and (5) networks of solidarity and support exist among female migrants.

<WORKING CONDITIONS> <PROSTITUTION> <SOCIAL NETWORKS> <DOMESTIC SERVICE>

050

Velasco Ortiz, Laura


This article on indigenous migrants on the border between California and Baja California uses two perspectives: ethnicity and gender. The article seeks to analyse the dynamics of gender relations in migrant families and communities, placing particular emphasis on opportunities for action by women. The information is based on a case study that relied on participant observation methods, biographical accounts and empirical data.

The article begins by looking at how studies on female migration in Mexico and to the United States have progressed; it then examines the debate over the perception of changes in the public and private spheres, which has served to make the opportunities for varied social action by women more complex.

Mixteco women’s social conditions and the various opportunities for action open to them are analysed according to their different points of destination; these are the farming area of San Quintin (where women work as unskilled labourers and take on reproductive tasks), the migrant settlement in Tijuana (where most work as street vendors or domestic servants) and the Mixteco community in California. The type of employment obtained will determine the extent to which the home environment is separated from that outside the home.

Women migrants experience tensions between their position in the family (as mother), in the community (as migrant and political participant), and in productive work. In all three spheres, women find different ways of reconciling this tension, either by negotiation or by subordination.

<WORKING CONDITIONS> <LIVING CONDITIONS> <ETHNIC FACTORS> <POLITICAL PARTICIPATION>
Ada Cheng, Shu-Ju

Analysis of international migration of women from a feminist point of view. The main hypothesis is that the globalization of the economy has led to a division of labour according to sex, on the international level. For that reason, the category of gender should be a fundamental criterion for analysis in all research on the issue.

The author asserts that the global economic system in place is characterized by the interrelationship of capitalism with patriarchy and state systems. Within this system, women migrants find themselves in occupational categories that are governed by the stereotypical perception of a woman’s place in society. Women perform roles that are based on the existing gender stratification, and that have reinforced the hierarchical structure in gender relations. In some cases, the State has contributed to this situation by intervening in the development process.

A case in point is that of Filipina migrant workers who are isolated in traditionally female forms of employment, such as the service sector, the maquila industry and the sex trade. In addition to their low status, such occupations require submission and are not normally deemed to be real work (domestic service, for example, since it is performed in the private environment). Consequently, while male migrants are able to maintain their status as workers, this is difficult for women because many of their occupations are not covered by national regulations.

In the case of domestic service, migration also has gender impacts at the international level: while women from the more developed countries are increasingly participating in productive work, the task of social reproduction is transferred to female immigrants from less developed countries, often coinciding not only with differences of class and nationality, but also of ethnicity. The author concludes that the sexual division of labour is reinforced and perpetuated by the process of international labour migration.

Hirsch, Jennifer
*En el Norte la mujer manda: Gender, Generation, and Geography in a Mexican Transnational Community.* pp. 1332-1349.

Study of the changes in marital ideals and gender relations linked to the migration process and generational differences. Applies life history analysis to 26 female migrants from Mexico (in Atlanta), as well as non-migrants and their mothers (in Degollado).
The author states that there is a change in women’s ideas about marriage, with a shift from the concept of respect (implying hierarchical relations between men and women) to the concept of confidence (typified by decision-making between equals, a more equitable division of labour, and mutual enjoyment of sex). This shift would seem to owe more to generational differences than the influences of migration. The second part analyses the impact of the migration process on gender relations, embodied in the slogan “En el Norte la mujer manda” [“In the North, women are in charge”]. The author contends that life in the United States makes women less dependent on their husbands, and that they feel under less supervision than in their place of origin, and free from behavioural norms defined by class and gender. Similarly, the Catholic Church wields less influence, particularly as regards reproductive life. Legal protections and support organizations give women the means to counter domestic violence. Lastly, paid work provides women with a measure of financial independence.

The author asserts that research on gender relations should shift its focus away from the concept of negotiation (purely female), and also give consideration to changes in the concept of masculinity, since changes in gender relations may be of benefit to men and women alike.

Mahler, Sarah  

Using a gender perspective, the author analyses the transnational discourses and practices employed by Salvadoran migrants in New York, and their impact on identities and power relations in the community of origin, in this case north-eastern El Salvador.

After a review of the theories of transnationalism, the author presents the results of her qualitative study conducted in New York and La Unión (El Salvador). She affirms that traditional gender relations are reproduced and renegotiated through different institutions and actors such as schools and returnee migrants and processes such as women’s involvement in transnational networks. The author concludes that transnational actors, local and regional actors alike are able to initiate a shift in power relations between men and women, and that these forces can be complemented or contradicted, thereby sending mixed messages to young people (who may well form the new generation of emigrants).

United Nations. ECLAC/CeLADE; IOM  
**Un examen de la migración internacional en la Comunidad Andina basado en datos censales [a study of international migration in the Andean Community based on census data].** Santiago: ECLAC, 1999. 114 pp.: diagrs., tbls.; incl. ref. Libros de la CEPAL series No. 52.  
ECLAC Library: LC/G.2058-P, LC/DEM/G.187 (77309)

Study of intraregional migration in the countries of the Andean Community (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) and emigration from the subregion towards the United States, based on census data. The study seeks to identify the major patterns and trends in international migration involving the region.
The study first ponders the process of regional integration and the effects of economic liberalization and globalization on migration flows. The study then identifies as major features the flows from Colombia to Venezuela (the largest in Latin America), from Venezuela to Colombia, from Colombia to Ecuador, and from Peru to Venezuela. As regards migration to the other countries of Latin America, the flow from Bolivia to Argentina stands out. The study notes the quantitative and qualitative significance of emigration from the Andean Community to the United States and Canada, identifying the Colombian community as the most numerous.

The third part details the demographic, educational and labour (including skilled labour) profiles of male and female migrants, for both intra- and extraregional flows. The chapter emphasizes the fact that most flows are dominated by women, and stresses the context of economic growth, regional integration and transformation of labour markets and, as a result, the social vulnerability of female migrants. Female migrants are less active in the labour market than men, and often find themselves in a situation of dependency (with the exception of migration to the United States).

As regards methodology, the study points out the limitations of census data when analysing migration, as well as the need to include data compiled from entrance and exit registers.

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055

Núñez, Lilia; Acevedo, Irene; Gorgerino, Claudia; Castro, Carolina; Fleet, Ann; Huatay, Carolina; Jacobs, Birgit; Loredo, Patricia

*Mujer y migración* [women and migration].


Compilation of papers presented at the Women and Migration Seminar, staged in October 1999 by Corporación AYUN. The authors are researchers and representatives of non-governmental organizations who work with Peruvian migrant women in Peru and Chile.

Among the topics discussed are the economic and social development and changes in labour markets resulting from globalization, as the engine for migration; the health care provided to Peruvian women migrants in Chile; the migrants’ integration into the society and labour market and their working conditions, with an emphasis on domestic service; and the discrimination they experience due to their migrant status, gender, class and ethnicity. A number of recommendations are put forward relating to women migrants’ integration and protection of their rights.

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056

Pessar, Patricia

*Engendering Migration Studies: The Case of New Immigrants in the United States*, pp. 577-600.


The author maintains that migration studies should tackle the issue using an integrated approach, considering the relationship between the variables of gender, class, ethnicity, nationality and legal status of female immigrants in the United States. Contributions that have incorporated gender as a crucial element of the migration process are a highlight of the literature on migration. Aspects requiring attention include: (a) the role of households and social networks; (b) the
empowerment processes associated with migration; (c) the settlement, return and transnational phases; and (d) immigrant families as a setting for the renegotiation of gender relations.

The author points out that the gender approach, insofar as it is the only variable, often obscures the fact that many female immigrants identify more with inequalities and discrimination associated with class, ethnicity and legal status, and, as a result, do not feel gender solidarity.

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1998

057

Albán, Estuardo
United Nations. ECLAC. CELADE
Ecuador: un examen de la migración internacional en la Comunidad Andina usando datos censales [a study of international migration in the Andean Community using census data].
ECLAC Library: LC/DEM/R.293 (72672)

Relying on census data, the study examines the principal trends and migration patterns from and to Ecuador, in the Andean Community region in the 1980s. Includes references to the migration of Ecuadoreans to the United States.

Ecuador has attracted few immigrants in recent decades. Immigrants from other Andean countries represent 60% of the total, with 88% from Colombia. Migration flows are predominantly female, with financial improvement as the main motivation.

As regards emigration from Ecuador, the period 1980-1990 saw a substantial increase to other Andean countries, especially Venezuela and Colombia. This migration flow showed a greater female component, except in the case of Colombia. The typical migrant is a non-agricultural worker with low skills.

The Ecuadorean community in the United States is characterized by a slightly higher number of females than males, in working age groups (men and women), who find employment in manufacturing and in highly skilled professions.

058

Aravena Cortes, Verónica
Género y migración: mujeres extranjeras en São Paulo, Brasil [gender and migration: foreign women in São Paulo, Brazil].

The paper outlines the results of a broader study on identity construction of Argentinian and Chilean migrants in São Paulo. The paper is based on personal accounts, gathered using the oral history method. The women interviewed migrated to Brazil during the 1970s and 1980s, when São
Paulo was seen as a “land of opportunity” and coups d’état in the region forced many people into exile.

Concerning the shaping of identity, the construction of bonds and relationships of belonging of these women, the author proposes the following hypotheses: firstly, new methods of communication and transport enable women to belong to both places, thereby combining values, practices and cultural behaviours; and secondly, migration breaks with the traditional notion of belonging, of “home”; the sense of a place “all one’s own” cannot be reclaimed by these migrants.

In conclusion, women migrants do not demonstrate loyalty to one single country, taking what they value most from each society and establishing bonds with both.

<ASSIMILATION OF MIGRANTS> <CULTURAL IDENTITY>

Azize, Yamila

*Latinoamericanas y caribeñas en el trabajo doméstico y sexual* [Latin American and Caribbean women’s involvement in domestic and sex work], pp. 45-51.
http://www.isis.cl/temas/vi/reflex14.htm

The article forms part of a broader project on global trafficking of women for sex work, domestic service and marriage, and women’s human rights. In Latin America, the growth in, and feminization of, migration during recent decades is related directly to the globalization of technology and production, which has resulted in a feminized service economy that institutionalizes the exploitation of women.

The author maintains that the lost decade was responsible for an increase in women’s participation in the labour force; however, despite growing levels of formal education, this did not translate into greater access to better jobs and wages. This was the backdrop in which the migration of women developed. Women’s remittances represent a major source of income for families, but they are earned at the cost of on-going abuse, violence and deceit.

The author states that the fight against trafficking has been hampered for three main reasons: (1) the struggle for the rights of migrant workers runs counter to the logic of economic globalization, which requires cheap and easily exploitable labour; (2) the absence of operational measures within the institutional framework (such as a broad definition of trafficking); and (3) the delayed entry into force of treaties, due to the limited number of signatory states.

In conclusion, the author stresses the need to promote further research on the issue, to overcome the failings of international treaties and ensure that women migrants’ most basic rights are guaranteed.

<INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS> <ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT> <GLOBALIZATION> <PROSTITUTION> <DOMESTIC SERVICE>
060

Benavides, Héctor
United Nations. ECLAC. CELADE
Perú: un examen de la migración internacional en la Comunidad Andina usando datos censales
[Peru: a study of international migration in the Andean Community using census data].
ECLAC Library: LC/DEM/R.288 (72021)

The author systematizes census data in order to identify the principal trends and patterns in
migration from and to Peru, in the 1980s, in the Andean Community region. He also refers to
Peruvian emigration to the United States.

The author states that the flow of Peruvians to other Andean countries is four times as large
as the flow of immigrants. Immigrants from Andean countries who have settled in Peru are
characterized by a high female participation rate and medium-to-high levels of education. Most find
employment in the commerce and service sectors. Women also outnumber men among Peruvian
emigrants to the United States. Both groups generally find employment in the service sector, where
people with different skill levels work alongside one another.

The author concludes that, in the 1980s, Peru can be identified as a country of emigrants to
the United States, as the leading destination outside the region, and to Argentina and Venezuela, in
Latin America.

<STATISTICAL ANALYSIS>

061

Cacopardo, María Cristina
Mujeres en Buenos Aires: migrantes y jefas de hogar [women in Buenos Aires: migrants and
heads of household].
Paper presented at the fifth symposium on the history of women and gender studies, Santa Rosa de

Comparative analysis of migrant women who are heads of household, from countries
bordering Argentina, and their male counterparts and local women. The variables studied include
patterns of settlement, the rate of female headship of household, living conditions (level of
education, degree of poverty, access to health, lack of job security), and the performance of
unskilled tasks. As a general rule, women heads of household face conditions of greater uncertainty
than their male counterparts; added to this, they have less protection under the social welfare
system, which also impacts on their families.

However, it is not possible to generalize about the entry into low-skilled jobs. Women heads
of household who have immigrated from neighbouring countries usually show higher rates of entry
into domestic service than local women, but they also perform general salaried services and work
on their own account. This state of affairs leads to lack of job security, but the women are not
necessarily any poorer in comparison with male-headed households. In addition, national statistics
from some neighbouring countries reveal higher poverty rates among female-headed households in
the country of origin than in the immigrant households in Argentina. It is recommended that
research be carried out that combines quantitative approaches, such as the one used in the study,
with qualitative ones in order to obtain a more comprehensive picture of migration movements to Argentina.

WORKING CONDITIONS  LIVING CONDITIONS  LABOUR MARKET

062

Foner, Nancy


Study of the consequences of migration and entry into the labour market of immigrant women from the Philippines, Jamaica and the Dominican Republic settled in New York.

Among the benefits of their entry into paid work, according to the author, are an increase in their financial independence, autonomy, self-esteem and their influence on family decisions, as a result of their significant contribution to family earnings. Furthermore, though equal gender relations may not be ushered in, men begin to participate in reproductive work. Other benefits that do not necessarily have to do with finding employment are: female migrants gaining access to better social services than those in their country; the chance to acquire household appliances that make housework easier; and the opportunity to participate in activities that afford these women greater independence.

The migration process also entails new demands and pressures, both in the workplace and in the home. For most migrant families, the woman’s entry into paid work is not an option but a necessity. The aspiring worker is often obliged to work in positions with little status and low pay, which offer difficult conditions and scant prospects for advancement. The home imposes a second workload on the woman because, in spite of the husband’s support, the woman continues to be responsible for most of the reproductive work.

The author concludes that studies of female migrants need to take into consideration the complex combination of gains and losses experienced in the host society.

AUTONOMY  WORKING CONDITIONS  GENDER RELATIONS  REPRODUCTIVE WORK

063

Gregorio Gil, Carmen


Study of the impact of emigration of Dominican women on the society of origin, both in financial terms and in terms of gender relations. The author affirms that, though many studies have been conducted on migration processes, most have ignored the issue of gender inequality. The author takes an anthropological approach, using the participant observation method, interviews and questionnaires addressed to Dominican women migrants in Spain and women in the Dominican Republic.

The author identifies five factors that influence changes stemming from the emigration of the women: (1), the inflow of remittances; (2) the absence of the women from their homes and the
increase in income; (3) the separation of leisure time and work time; (4) employment as domestic servants; and (5) the changes perceived by women in their new circumstances.

The author draws the conclusion that the emigration of women has had profound effects in the Dominican Republic, both at the national and family levels. However, there are both positive and negative consequences with regards to gender relations. The women appear to be agents of change, but at the same time, they keep some of the roles allotted to them by Dominican society.

Grieco, Elizabeth M.; Boyd, Monica

Study of international migration that begins with a brief critical review of traditional migration theories (neoclassical and structuralist theories) and more recent integrated theories (household strategy, social networks). The study highlights the need to incorporate gender as a constituent variable into these theories, since prevailing theories ignore the consequences that supposedly gender-neutral processes have on male and female migrants.

The study puts forward a three-stage model which defines migration as a process of change in status. The pre-migration stage, and its selective impact on the genders, constitutes the first moment of the decision-making process. This stage includes gender relations in the context of family and society, women’s status, defined through individual variables (age, ethnicity, urban/rural origin, etc.), family structure, cultural values and norms, and structural characteristics, such as the economic situation of the country of origin. In the second stage, the act of migration is influenced by emigration and immigration policies and their differentiated impact on men and women, and by intermediary institutions, legal or otherwise. The third stage encompasses the post-migration situation, with a particular focus on the impacts of migration status, entry into the labour force, and the consequences (positive, negative and neutral) of migration for gender relations.

The authors stress the importance of an approach incorporating individual and structural factors in the study of migration with a gender perspective, since migrants, as a diverse community, conform to structural factors that do not have an unambiguous or neutral impact on them.

Hagan, Jacqueline Maria

Relying on an extensive case study of the Maya/Guatemalan community in Houston, Texas, the author analyses the relationship between the social networks organized by the immigrants, cultural adjustment and their socio-economic mobility. The author maintains that networks differ significantly according to gender, and that these confer greater advantages on men. Since the outset of the Maya migration to Houston, most migrants have been concentrated in two occupations: men in a supermarket chain and women in domestic service. Women working as domestic servants find
it difficult to establish contacts with other women, Mayan or otherwise, because the networks that they manage to build up are short-lived. Men’s work, in contrast, allows them to extend their networks to include other workers who share information with them on employment opportunities and ways to legalize their immigration status.

The author recommends paying greater attention to gender in the study of migrant groups’ social networks, as the variable has significant effects on women’s integration into the host society.

Jiménez, Bernarda

*La inmigración dominicana en España [Dominican immigration in Spain]*. pp. 133-145.

Results of a case study, based on the experience of a women immigrant NGO in Spain and a survey administered by the same organization to a sample of 609 Dominican migrants. The results reveal female predominance in the flow of Dominican migrants (87%), whose reasons for migrating are as follows: economic, political and social crisis in their country; demand for staff in the service sector in Spain; high purchasing power of the peseta, until 1994; and the influence of migration networks that perpetuate the phenomenon. Female immigrants are characterized by a medium-to-high level of education, and are between 35-40 years old. A total of 81% have children, and most of them arrived in Spain between 1990 and 1993. These immigrants find employment particularly in the personal services industry, enjoying relatively high job stability and above-minimum wages. The majority of them send remittances to their families on a monthly basis. The number of women who send remittances far outweighs the number of men, and the same goes for the amounts sent. Most of the women wish to return to their country, even though they have a positive view of the host society.

The author contends that integration is progressing slowly, due to a lack of attention on the part of the countries (of origin and destination) which do not consider the women to be citizens with full rights and do not value their contribution.

Applying a gender perspective, the author reviews and critiques traditional migration theories and proposes new approaches to the study of causes and decision-making in migration processes. The aim is to analyse the different variables (obstacles, opportunities, modernization, push and pull factors) used by prevailing models to explain migration and to identify the main theoretical gaps in order to explain women’s experience. The first theory proposes that women absence’s in migration studies is due primarily to the traditional division of roles that places men in the productive sphere and women in the reproductive sphere; the second theory affirms the
existence of other variables, such as the household unit and gender roles, which influence women’s decision to migrate and which have been ignored by traditional approaches.

After analysing the traditional theories, the author states that these have made only marginal progress towards a discussion of migration differentiated by sex. For their part, studies that have gradually incorporated the gender perspective focus on macro factors (sociocultural, economic and legal aspects) and micro factors (personal characteristics, family structure, family strategy). The author criticizes analyses that have applied merely individual or structural approaches to migration. Instead, she proposes a model using a multilevel approach, which attempts to overcome the incompatibility between the two perspectives, and which considers gender to be a determining factor in the process.

The author draws the conclusion that the models applied to male migration are of little use in explaining female migration, which is caused by additional factors of a legal, social and cultural nature. In the author’s view, the main challenges for the analysis are rural-rural migration in the Third World, migration by skilled women and migration by women without documentation.

Jones-Correa, Michael

**Different Paths: Gender, Immigration and Political Participation.** pp. 326-349.

Study on identity and political participation by Latin American migrants in New York. The study tackles the problem combining two different theoretical approaches: on the one hand, feminist studies of immigration which identify gender differences in the migration strategy, integration and settlement in the destination country, as a result of different experiences in terms of status; and on the other, studies that describe the divergent ideas and political activities of men and women migrants, but do not theorize as to their origin. The study aims precisely to establish a theoretical basis for this phenomenon.

Interviews with men and women migrants reveal that men tend to form migrant organizations that direct their focus towards the home countries, while women are more active in United States organizations that direct their activities towards the immigrant community. According to the theory, the divergent strategies reflect different experiences in the migration process. Migrant men often see their job status and incomes decline; they attempt to make up for this by becoming involved in migrant organizations, where they are better protected from discrimination and where their pre-migration status is more important that their current status. Women, on the other hand, are empowered, notwithstanding some losses: by entering paid employment, women contribute to the household income, enabling them to renegotiate decision-making mechanisms. Women are aware that returning to the home country would in many cases entail a return to the power relationships of the past, and for that reason they are more inclined to settle in the destination country. Moreover, migrant organizations are almost always headed by men. On account of this marginalization, women seek out alternative ways of participating and often get involved in state and municipal programmes targeting the immigrant community, where they act as intermediaries between the community and the authorities.

The conclusion reached is that the different strategies are determined by gender and by the calculation of the social benefits incurred through political participation.
Lim, Lin Lean

**The Processes Generating the Migration of Women.**

Summary of the main trends in international female migration and the factors that cause it; it is predicted that the phenomenon will continue and will probably grow more disparate. The summary is based on census data collected in different countries and on secondary sources.

Analysing the theory of migration systems, four processes causing female migration are identified: (1) economic processes and their selective impacts according to gender, such as recruitment by transnational enterprises, informalization of labour markets in the developed countries and growing demand in the personal services sector; (2) political processes, which encompass the migration policies of the origin and destination countries. Such policies appear to be gender-neutral, but may have a different impact on women and men; (3) institutional processes and migration brokers, such as migration industry players (recruitment agencies, traffickers, among others) and transnational corporations; and (4) social processes, related to the woman’s position within the family, sociocultural attitudes and the existence of social networks.

The recommendations made signal the need to increase measures to protect female migrants, ratify international conventions, generate more and better data about the problem, and change the way trafficked women are treated (i.e., from criminals to victims).

Lugo, Isabela
United Nations. ECLAC. CELADE

**Venezuela: un examen de la migración internacional en la Comunidad Andina usando datos censales** [Venezuela: a study of international migration in the Andean Community using census data].
ECLAC Library: LC/DEM/R.291 (72433)

Study of the main trends and patterns in migration from and to Venezuela, in the 1980s, based on census data. The study also addresses emigration from Venezuela to the United States.

Immigration has increased as the Venezuelan economy has grown, with Colombians constituting the largest immigrant group. The immigrant community from the Andean countries is predominantly female, characterized by a low level of educational attainment; these immigrants typically find employment in manual trades. Most women migrants reside in the Metropolitan Area of Caracas and work as domestic servants.

Women also outnumber men when it comes to emigration from Venezuela to other Andean countries. On the whole, international migration from and to Venezuela is motivated by financial considerations.
071

Murad, Rocío
United Nations. ECLAC. CELADE
Colombia: un examen de la migración internacional en la Comunidad Andina usando datos censales [Colombia: a study of international migration in the Andean Community using census data].
ECLAC Library: LC/DEM/R.292 (72434)

Using census data, the study describes the main trends and patterns in international migration from and to Colombia in the Andean Community region. The study also includes data on emigration to the United States.

The data reveals that Colombia attracts few immigrants; most immigration is from Venezuela. Venezuela is the main destination for Colombian migrants within the region, attracting 90% of Colombian migrants within the Andean Community. Women outnumber men when it comes to the Colombian migrant community residing in Andean countries. Professionals and technicians are very well represented in Bolivia and Peru, relatively speaking, while in Venezuela, migrants find employment especially in the service, agriculture, commerce and manufacturing sectors.

The Colombian community in the United States comprises more women than men; these migrants are, as a general rule, employed in services and manufacturing.

In conclusion, current economic and social conditions in Colombia mean that no drop in emigration should be expected.

<STATISTICAL ANALYSIS> <RETURN MIGRATION>

072

Pérez, Pilar

The article sets out the results of a more wide-ranging investigation of female citizenship, democracy, and mechanisms of inclusion/exclusion regarding female immigrants in Spain. The introduction outlines the various theories about citizenship and the debate over growing foreign immigration to Spain, and briefly reviews the Spanish Government’s migration policy.

The article asserts that integration of immigrants always fluctuates between the two extremes of assimilation or respect for their culture, and that the Spanish Government emphasizes assimilation. The example of female Dominican immigrants is used to illustrate the inclusion/exclusion mechanisms of migration and integration policies. According to the author, the main criticisms of female Dominican immigrants relate to entry restrictions (border controls) and policies promoting social integration. Even though, they have accepted the assimilation policy for different reasons, these immigrants are confronted with formal and administrative problems, and face discrimination by the local population and the news media.

<ASSIMILATION OF MIGRANTS> <CITIZENSHIP> <THEORY>
Polo, Teresa
United Nations. ECLAC. CELADE
Bolivia: un examen de la migración internacional en la Comunidad Andina usando datos censales [Bolivia: a study of international migration in the Andean Community using census data].
ECLAC Library: LC/DEM/R.290 (72432)

A summary of the main trends and patterns in migration from and to Bolivia, in the 1980s, in the Andean Community region, based on census data. The study also alludes to the emigration of Bolivians to Argentina and the United States.

The study indicates that immigration to Bolivia has been of little significance, and is comprised basically of men who find employment in high-skilled jobs. For their part, most emigrating Bolivians head towards destinations other than the Andean countries (Argentina and the United States). Within the Andean Community, Peru and Venezuela are the main destination countries. Most Bolivians who migrate to these countries have a high level of education and work as professionals or technicians. In contrast, Bolivians who emigrate to Argentina do so as part of a survival strategy and take on jobs in manual labour. More women than men migrate to the United States. Bolivians in the United States find employment, in equal measure, as professionals and technicians, manual workers and craftspeople, and service workers.

Ramírez de Arellano, Annette
Puerto Rico Health Sciences Journal, 17 (1), San Juan, March 1998.

Comparative analysis of statistical data on reproductive health, cancer and AIDS of Puerto Rican women in the United States and the female population in Puerto Rico.

The figures indicate that female migrants’ health status is worse than that of women in Puerto Rico: a significantly higher number of the migrants are teenage mothers or single mothers, and a greater proportion do not receive prenatal care. The data on cancer is ambivalent: the migrants are at a disadvantage compared to non-migrants for certain types of cancer, but not others. Migrant women have a higher rate of AIDS than women in Puerto Rico and other groups in the United States.

Generally speaking, Puerto Rican women in the United States are in a more vulnerable position than their counterparts back home and the native population in the United States, and this situation has not improved over time. The author concludes that the loss of a lifestyle that offers protection from certain risks has not been offset by resources and sources of information that would allow the migrants to effectively take care of their own health.
Weyland, Karin

El impacto cultural y económico de la migración hacia Nueva York de la mujer dominicana trabajadora: ¿Transculturación o estrategia económica? [the cultural and economic impact of migration to New York of female Dominican migrants: transculturation or economic strategy?] pp. 93-112; incl. ref.
Estudios Sociales, 31 (112), Santo Domingo, April-June 1998.
ECLAC Library: REP/SO 10(112/98) (70905)

The article analyses the ideologies that maintain and temper the financial and individual situation of female Dominican immigrants in New York. The author ponders the cultural processes that encourage female emigration and the impact that this process has on cultural practices.

By emigrating, the women initiate a process of transculturation that leads to a breakdown and restructurining of Dominican traditions, after coming up against, and being influenced by, two cultural and socio-economic systems. This process affects gender relations, status symbols and women’s identity in different spheres.

The analysis of transcultural practices has its focus on the spheres of family, workplace and home. As regards the family, emigration represents a violation of the woman’s traditional role, but, at the same time, solidarity with the family —evident in the remittances and gifts that she sends them— embodies continuity of Dominican cultural values and women’s roles as mothers and wives.

The type of jobs female migrants take on in the United States shows clear signs of continuity: for example, female migrants find employment in textile factories, the informal sector or domestic service, all perceived traditionally as female domains.

The home continues to be the woman’s principal point of reference and she dreams about having the modern home of the host society in her home country. Many Dominicans go about constructing it for the time when they return, thereby acquiring a new status. In this way, changes in lifestyles introduced by the migrant culture have impacts in the Dominican Republic that are cultural as well as economic.

The author concludes that in spite of some positive changes, such as the appreciation of women’s work and increased self-esteem, female migrants come up against new forms of control, such as the United States bureaucracy, welfare dependency and street culture, which in part replace traditional power structures.

<FAMILY> <CULTURAL IDENTITY> <REPRODUCTIVE WORK>
Alicea, Marixsa

Analysis of the role of female migrants in transnational communities and their involvement in subsistence work. Interviews of Puerto Rican women form the basis of the study on the contradictory nature of work and its impact on women’s autonomy. In theoretical terms, this constitutes a challenge to studies that emphasize the empowerment that the migration process brings for women.

In her analysis of the transnational community of Puerto Ricans in the United States and Puerto Rico, the author affirms that women maintain ties with the home communities and establish new ones with the host society, which enables them to form a symbolic community and have access to resources in both places. This gives them a feeling of stability and security in their family relationships, which helps them deal with the class and racial discrimination that they face in the host society. However, entry into the job market entails self-sacrifice, given that reproductive work is essentially performed by women, due to ideological notions that define it as an innately feminine activity. The central hypothesis holds that the unequal distribution of reproductive work is perpetuated by networks formed by women.

The author questions the hypothesis of increased autonomy through the migration process. Paradoxically, in her view, the combination of traditional gender expectations and the female concept of moral obligation keeps women confined to the sphere of subsistence work. Thus, the migration process does not necessarily modify gender relations in a positive way.

Gregorio Gil, Carmen

The author reflects on possible changes in gender relations, studying the case of female Dominican migrants in Madrid. In terms of theory, the author adopts the gender perspective as a cultural system, and the perspective of universality, which interprets the processes studied within the framework of interaction between different societies.

Findings with respect to change or continuity in gender relations are as follows: (1) even though the case represents a form of independent female migration, it is based on gender inequalities in the Dominican Republic, since, in the face of poverty in the home country, the migrant assumes the role of mother and breadwinner; (2) by taking up employment in the personal services sector, the migrant reproduces her traditional gender role; (3) however, changes also occur...
that challenge gender inequality, such as greater use of public spheres; and (4) changes can also signify losses for female migrants, such as restricted entry into the labour market, the nature of the work and the racism encountered in the host society.

078

Herranz, Yolanda
Transformación del mercado laboral de Madrid y feminización de la inmigración latinoamericana [transformation of the Madrid labour market and feminization of Latin American immigration]. pp. 171-182.

The author views the feminization of Latin American immigration in Spain as the consequence of structural changes. These have resulted in “global cities“, such as Madrid, whose labour market is characterized by growing polarization between high-level specialized jobs and poorly paid jobs in the service sector.

The author contends that Spanish migration policy and, crucially, the quota system put in place in 1993, are targeted at immigrant labour, employed in sectors rejected by Spanish nationals, such as domestic service, construction, catering and agriculture.

Female immigrants from Latin America take up employment in domestic service, where they have been progressively replacing Asians, a trend attributable to their speaking the same language. Employment as domestic servants means the migrants are not competing with the local Spanish population, confirming the theory of labour market polarization. Their status as both immigrants and females pushes women from Latin America into work as domestic servants, in spite of their high levels of education, implying a downgrading.

079

Knecher, Lidia; Olivella, María Inés
Migraciones e inmigraciones, aspectos culturales y sociales desde la perspectiva de género, en la República Argentina y en relación con el Mercosur [migration and immigration, cultural and social aspects from a gender perspective, in Argentina and in relation to MERCOSUR].

The authors analyse the immigration of Bolivian women to Buenos Aires using a gender perspective. As regards integration into the society and the labour force, the authors note the spatial segregation of Bolivian migrants in a number of neighbourhoods, where social networks and banding-together among fellow Bolivian nationals take on great importance. The pattern of female migration appears integrated into these networks, since migration for the purposes of family reunion is prominent. The woman’s role in the new society is particularly important in the reproduction of cultural identity.

Among the main findings, the authors point to the prominent position of women in the migration flow to Argentina and their segregation into low skill activities, such as domestic service,
clothes production and informal commerce; this segmentation reproduces the stereotype of the woman’s place in the home society, with activities as an extension of housework.

<WORKING CONDITIONS> <LIVING CONDITIONS> <SOCIAL NETWORKS>

Monreal Requena, Pilar
Asociaciones de mujeres, racismo y pobreza en una “ciudad global” [women’s associations, racism and poverty in a “global city”]. pp. 193-209.

Study of associations of female Dominican immigrants in New York and how these represent a response to the mechanisms of inclusion/exclusion faced by the women. The author alludes firstly to the theory of new social movements, and then identifies the characteristics of the Dominican immigrant community, emphasizing its diversity. The author identifies two migration waves (the 1960s and the 1970s-1980s), which met with differing conditions of reception. The hypothesis put forward is that these flows reflect two forms of association among women: the formal and the informal.

The first one takes the form of formal, structured organizations with links to other bodies, and acts as an advocate for the interests of female migrants in the struggle against all kinds of discrimination.

The second type takes the form of small informal women’s associations, which emerged as a response to the decision of New York authorities to reduce spending on health, education and housing, a decision that impacted especially on poor and Latino neighbourhoods. These groups sought to come up with solutions to urgent and tangible problems facing their families (such as violence, drugs and AIDS), through informal mutual support networks.

The hypothesis suggests that the two movements have divergent interests, which reflect the financial circumstances and class status of their members. While banding together in formal associations is favoured by one more entrepreneurial segment of the population, informal associations are favoured among poor women; this demonstrates the importance of introducing the class dimension in the analysis of female immigrants’ social movements, because social stratification divides women’s interests.

<SOCIAL CLASSES> <LIVING CONDITIONS> <POLITICAL PARTICIPATION>
Bonifazi, Corrado; Ferruzza, Angela
Estudios Migratorios Latinoamericanos, 32, 1996.

Analysis of the situation of female immigrants from Latin America in Italy, based on 1991 census data and secondary sources. The authors maintain that the new migration movement evidences the close relationship between globalization and feminization. The flows originate in countries without geographical, historical or cultural ties with Italy and feature a high female component (231 women for every 100 men). The largest groups are Brazilians, Peruvians and Argentinians, with the 15-44 age group being predominant. The women’s labour force participation rate is lower than that of men; the women find employment particularly in domestic service, and, in the case of the Brazilians, nightclubs and sex work. Only women with a higher level of education manage to improve their socio-economic status and employment situation.

The main features of the recent flows are the rise in migration motivated by financial considerations (in contrast to the political reasons cited in past decades), the significant role of women in labour migration and the concentration of women in domestic service.

Boyd, Monica
ECLAC Library: D-19892.067

Analysis of female immigrants’ integration into the labour force in North America and its relationship with economic restructuring and changing patterns in labour demand. The restructuring of the North American economy brings with it the division of the labour market into “good” jobs and “second-rate” jobs. The latter are performed by female immigrant labour, and are concentrated in the personal services and manufacturing sectors. A comparison of census data from Canada and the United States reveals similar patterns of integration in the labour force. This trend is stronger in the case of female migrants who are not from either North America or Europe.

The author points to a contradiction between recent industrial and development policies and migration policies: the principles of competitiveness require immigrant labour, but migration policies seek to control immigration and fail to take into account international economic conditions that result in the continued arrival of immigrants, most of whom are women.
Ellis, Mark; Conway, Dennis; Bailey, Adrian J.
The Circular Migration of Puerto Rican Women: Towards a Gendered Explanation. pp. 31-64.
International Migration, 34 (1), 1996.

This study of emigration and return migration of Puerto Rican women in New York uses the structuralist theory of political economy and the gender perspective to develop a circular model of female migration, which considers both the causal relationship between gender and migration and its impact on relations between men and women.

The first migration streams were comprised primarily of men; women travelled as dependants. However, because of the labour shortage in Puerto Rico and the United States, women migrants and non-migrants alike started to get involved in productive work. This situation raised women’s awareness and led to an increase in independent female migration for economic reasons. However, women also emigrate in order to fulfil traditional roles (get married, and look after children or old family members, etc.). These obligations influence the choice of strategies: migration or circulation.

The authors conclude that gender relations in the workplace and the home are crucial in understanding emigration and return of Puerto Rican women. The vast majority migrates as to join their partners or to fulfil their gender responsibilities. Nonetheless, this process, influences gender relations and may alter future migration decisions, since women face a new sociocultural environment. Of particular note is the prevalence, of personal reasons among women for the decision to return to Puerto Rico; according to the authors, such reasons weigh more heavily than structural factors and are closely tied up with gender roles.

Gregorio Gil, Carmen
Consolidación de grupos domésticos transnacionales: un análisis de la emigración de mujeres dominicanas a la Comunidad de Madrid desde la antropología de género [consolidation of transnational domestic groups: an analysis of the emigration of Dominican women to the Community of Madrid using the anthropology of gender]. pp. 1-62.

Analysis of the immigration of Dominican women in Madrid, based on a qualitative field study, which examines the factors that promote female emigration and, as a result, the formation of transnational groups. It also looks at the changes in the sexual division of labour and power structures brought about by female migration.

As regards the factors that sustain emigration, the analysis affirms as reasons the lack of employment opportunities and low wages in the home country, the financial independence that women achieve and value, family members’ growing dependence on remittances and legal factors.

Meanwhile, in the Dominican Republic, the absence of women forces a reorganization of the home; in many instances, an unpaid relative performs the reproductive work. In a similar vein, there are changes in the way production is organized, with the migrant woman becoming the main breadwinner. The man often abandons productive strategies, since the money from the remittances is enough to cover basic expenses.
The author affirms that, in spite of some achievements on the part of migrant women (such as greater decision-making power over expenditure and the amount of remittances, sexual freedom and the decisive role played in the migration by other members of the family), the changes do not modify the division of labour within the household. This is due to prevailing ideologies that are neither altered by the man nor questioned by the woman.

Kempadoo, Kamala


Case study on the migration of Dominican women to the Antilles island of Curacao, with an emphasis on the immigrants’ engagement in sex work, commerce and marriage. Based on official figures, and interviews with migrants and authorities on the island.

Dominican women make up 61.5% of registered sex workers. Almost all of them work at the same complex featuring a brothel and a casino. The rate of return to this complex is nudging 60%, and hence it is assumed that more than half of the women understand the nature of the work prior to arriving (and thus do not fall into the category of trafficked or deceived women). The situation is highly regulated by the authorities, which —along with isolation— contributes to the separation between local women and the immigrants, between “good girls” and prostitutes, virtuous women and promiscuous ones.

The tensions between the “decent” women from Curacao and Dominican “sex workers” are repeated when it comes to the women who migrate for marriage purposes. Marriage enables these women to reside in the Netherlands Antilles and Holland, and grants them access to social and health benefits. There are suspicions of fraudulent marriage practices, but no proof of this has come to light. However, the evidence points to a market for arranged marriages, where middlemen charge money for providing a Dutch or Antilles groom.

Mention is also made of Dominican women’s involvement in intraregional trade in manufactured items (including clothes, shoes, and cosmetics), purchased in customs-free areas and later resold.

The author maintains that although there are cases of deception, manipulation and trafficking, Dominican women are not only victims but also act as agents in various activities. Dominican migration to Curacao is not captured in its complexity using concepts of forced or voluntary migration, as external pressures and independent decision-making coexist.

Ortiz, Vilma

Migration and Marriage among Puerto Rican Women. pp. 460-484.
International Migration Review, 30 (2), New York, 1996.

Analysis of migration by Puerto Rican women to the United States in the 1980s, based on two surveys conducted in Puerto Rico and New York, and focusing on the influence of family.
In search of work. International migration of women in Latin America and the Caribbean. Selected bibliography

indicators on emigration and return migration. In theoretical terms, the analysis attempts to reconcile the two dominant approaches to migration (structural and individual), stressing the importance of the family unit in the migration processes. The variables studied are: type of migration (migrant/returnee), the level of schooling, labour force participation, age, number of children and marital status. With respect to emigration, Puerto Rican women migrants are compared with non-migrants, and with respect to return, the returnees are compared with the women who stayed in New York, in order to identify the factors that influence the respective decisions.

The results reveal that: (1) the women who are more likely to emigrate have an average level of education; (2) women without work in Puerto Rico migrate to a greater degree than those who are employed; (3) older women predominate in both the emigrating and return flows; (4) the number of children has a negative impact on the chances of emigrating; (5) single women and women whose marital status has recently changed figure prominently; (6) female emigrants undergo greater changes in marital status after migration than after return; (7) return is more likely in the case of recently married women than in the case of those divorced or single prior to migration.

The author stresses the considerable weight of the family situation on women’s decisions to migrate and sets out some proposals for interpretation.

Philips, Daphne
The Internationalization of Labour. The Migration of Nurses from Trinidad and Tobago (A Case Study). pp. 109-127.
International Sociology, 11 (1), March 1996.

Case study on the determinants of the migration of nurses from Trinidad and Tobago to the United States and Great Britain, based on a survey carried out on both Caribbean islands and secondary sources. The author investigates the factors that lead to the emigration of nurses, the influence of gender in this process, the destination of the flow, and what can be done to curb it.

The results of the survey confirm that the flow has switched from Great Britain, the primary destination in the 1970s and 1980s, to the United States, from the late 1980s on. The reasons for this trend are twofold: (1) the major recruitment of foreign nurses undertaken by United States hospitals, due to a restructuring of the health system, which led to a marked shortage of staff; and (2) the impact of adjustment policies in Trinidad and Tobago, which contributed to a decline in living standards and a deterioration of working conditions in hospitals, with the result that the staff were greatly dissatisfied. Further contributing factors are the financial and social responsibilities of the nurses to their families, impossible to meet with the salaries paid in the climate of belt-tightening.

The author concludes that migration by nurses is one of the effects of the changes in the international capitalist system, which, in developed countries, changes the demand for labour and, through structural adjustment policies, leads to reduced social spending in developing countries.
1995

088

Balán, Jorge

**Household Economy and Gender in International Migration: The Case of Bolivians in Argentina.** pp. 278-289.


ST/ESA/SER.R/126

ECLAC Library: D-16178.05

The analysis of the role of gender in Bolivian migration to Argentina starts with a brief review of the process and the main features of this flow during the past 50 years. The focus is on female migrants from Cochabamba, their family structure and women’s role in the rural economy.

The development of the economy in the region and women’s place in the home have an impact on the decision to migrate: at the same time as there are fewer jobs in agriculture for men, many women continue to participate in commercial or household activities. Thus, temporary work in the valleys of Bolivia or Argentina becomes a source of employment for men.

Female Bolivian migrants in Buenos Aires can be classified in four distinct groups: girls who migrate with family members; single women; women who migrate for marriage purposes; and married women, generally with children. Bolivian women of working age are employed in domestic service, the informal sector (as merchants and craftsmen) and in the textile industry.

The author identifies the following differences among Bolivian migrants, according to gender: (1) reasons for migration: women are more likely to migrate to fulfill their gender roles than to seek better jobs; (2) job opportunities: women have greater difficulty finding work in the formal sector; (3) impacts of migration: these are more negative for women, often including a decline in social standing and independence following the loss of family networks in the community of origin.

089

Bilac, Elisabete Dória

**Género, familia y migraciones internacionales [gender, family and international migrations].** pp. 3-11.

IOM Latin American Migration Journal, 13 (1), Santiago, Chile, 1995.

The author analyses the relationship between gender, class and ethnicity in international migrations, and in particular the degree to which the dominant theoretical models take into account; in addition, the author examines the possibility of connecting these categories the micro and macro levels in order to give them proper consideration in the theoretical and policy sphere.

A review of the existing literature (chiefly from the United States) shows that there is no single theoretical or methodological model. It indicates that studies on feminization of migration have helped foreground women migrants and extend the classical economic model of “push and pull” forces, which did not explain the complexity of the migration phenomenon. New explanatory
models have appeared, both at the macrostructural and the microsocial levels; these open up the question as to the innate nature of variables of gender, class and ethnicity in the decision to migrate and in women migrants’ integration into the labour market and large society. At the theoretical level, the author poses two questions: (1) to what extent does the triple perspective require that the established models be modified?; and (2) to what extent might incorporating these variables constitute progress towards the construction of a model that combines macro and micro perspectives?

The author presents an outline of the migration panorama in the Southern Cone, based on data collected from secondary sources, and notes the urbanization and feminization of intraregional streams women represent almost 50 percent of migrants in these flows.

In the conclusion, the author points out the need to collect and analyse data broken down by sex, and to undertake special studies to discern the relationship between gender and migration. The author also identifies the need to examine policies in the region using a gender perspective, in order to evaluate their possibly discriminatory impact on women migrants.

Borrero Vega, Ana Luz (ed.); Vega Ugalde, Silvia
ILDIS
Mujer y migración: alcances de un fenómeno nacional y regional [women and migration: dimensions of a national and regional phenomenon].
ECLAC Library: 301.412/B737 (68438)

Compilation of papers presented at the seminar of the same name, staged in Cuenca in 1995. The first part analyses the interprovincial flows in Ecuador (1982-1990), identifying the main streams broken down by sex and the determinants of female migration.

The second part of the study focuses on migration from the provinces of the Austro region in Ecuador, both internally (towards Cuenca, the coast, and the east) and to other countries (particularly the United States, Canada and Venezuela), based on the results of two case studies. In addition to drawing a profile of the women migrants, the study analyses the impact of migration on the family, the woman and the place of origin. The document highlights the consequences for agriculture and production (especially growing inequality between migrants and non-migrants), and the change in social roles performed by migrants and non-migrants. Reference is made to the new activities of women in the place of destination (as workers), and, in the case of non-migrants, as heads of household, a role assumed either totally or in part due to the absence of the migrant men. However, this does not necessarily translate into an improvement in living conditions.

The authors draw the conclusion that migration requires more attention and that this depends on the generation of more and better information. As for migration policies, the authors suggest a change of focus: from policies of prevention to policies aimed at the social integration of the migrant population, taking into account women’s special circumstances.
León, Irene (coord.); Sosa, Marcela (coord.)  
*Latinoamericanas en Europa: desilusión en la tierra prometida* [Latin American women in Europe: disillusion in the promised land].  

Compilation of articles, from a variety of authors, on the experience of NGOs working with women from Latin America and the Caribbean in Europe. Issues addressed include the causes of female migration, the racial and gender discrimination that female migrants face in the countries of the European Union, trafficking of women, living and working conditions in the informal sector and in sex work, restrictive migration policies and support networks for female migrants.

<DISCRIMINATION> <PROSTITUTION> <INFORMAL SECTOR> <TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN>

Lim, Lin Lean  
*The Status of Women and International Migration*. pp. 29-55.  
ST/ESA/SER.R/126.  
ECLAC Library: D-16178.02

The author analyses the importance of gender in the decision-making process of international migrants, and the impact of a change of sociocultural environment (from one system of gender stratification to another one) on women’s status.

The first part examines the concept of women’s status from a multidimensional perspective, identifying the economic, political and social indicators that provide for its assessment before and after migration. The second part looks at the factors behind female migration, be they structural (economic, institutional, political and social processes), individual or family related (cultural environment, family structure, marital status, age and level of education). The third part examines the impact of migration on gender relations, identifying the following indicators of status: (a) legal and political rights and relations of dependency; (b) labour rights; and (c) impact on family structure and women’s roles. The author emphasizes the need to compare the sociocultural environment of women in origin and destination societies.

Overall, the study poses the most important questions for the study of migration from a gender perspective and outlines the first steps that have been taken to explain related phenomena. With respect to public policies, the study contends that policies that are supposedly gender-neutral can have differing consequences for male and female migrants.

<AUTONOMY> <WOMEN’S RIGHTS> <MIGRATION POLICY>
Rodríguez Moya, Juana

The document describes the integration into the workforce in Spain of women immigrants from the Dominican Republic, Argentina, Peru and Colombia, among other countries, based on data from the Ministry of Labour and Social Security.

The data reveal a significant spatial concentration, a high rate of single motherhood and a high level of education among the Latin American women. The causes of migration reflect structural and individual aspects, and the existence of social networks. As regards the situation in the workplace and the wider society, the article affirms that female migrants fill niches left by the non-migrant population, taking up poorly paid and low-status jobs, such as domestic service, sex work, street trading, hotels and catering, etc. The most serious problems encountered are the triple discrimination as women, workers and migrants, the distance from the family, isolation and housing conditions.

Hune, Shirley

The article examines the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrants and Members of their Families, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1990, as a new instrument for human rights, from a gender perspective. The article sets out the Convention’s advantages and shortcomings with regard to the protection of women as migrant workers and as members of migrant families.

The first part focuses on the decade 1976-1985, declared the United Nations Decade for Women, indicating that the issue of female migrant workers was addressed gradually and within the framework of demographic, economic and political change. In the author’s view, the Convention represents a significant advance for migrants in that it recognizes them as a vulnerable population and takes responsibility for the adoption of measures to protect their rights.

It is noted that the Convention publicly dismisses the assumption that only men are migrant workers, by explicitly including women (evident in the English version in the use of “he/she” and “his/her”) in some articles that refer particularly to their vulnerability, such as sexual exploitation, trafficking and forced sex work. Other articles are of a general nature, but have direct effects on female migrants, such as the article on the right to form associations of interest, of great importance.
since the majority work in non-unionized occupations. As regards women as members of the migrant family, the right to family reunion is emphasized.

Among the shortcomings identified is the fact that the Convention fails to take into account the gendered segmentation of work performed by migrants. The author also criticizes the lack of attention paid to sexual exploitation and victimization.

<INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS> <WOMEN’S RIGHTS>

095

INSTRAW

The Migration of Women: Methodological Issues in the Measurement and Analysis of Internal and International Migration.


ECLAC Library: 301.32/I59M (88837)

The publication aims to provide information about migration theories and migration of women, and to encourage national statistical institutes to produce data on the phenomenon, broken down by sex. In this context, the publication reviews and evaluates the existing data on internal and international female migration, examines the reasons why women do not figure in migration data, proposes variables to learn about the determinants and consequences of female migration, and recommends some measures for improving the data.

With regard to international migration, the publication identifies four patterns: permanent settlement; labour migration; undocumented migration; and refugees, with a female component that varies according to the type of migration and the recipient country. Noteworthy sources of information include demographic data (population censuses, household surveys, and registers) and government statistics (border statistics, residency and work permits, requests for asylum, emigration permits, statistics on regularization and deportation, and statistics on refugees), each with its own drawbacks.

When it comes to collecting the data required to analyse the determinants of female migration, the paper recommends the survey method; such surveys should consider micro and macro factors, men and women, migrants and non-migrants, and are preferably undertaken in countries of origin and destination. The paper also recommends important variables for analysis, such as demographic and socio-economic characteristics, labour force participation, and status within the household, among others.

For research on the consequences of female migration, the paper recommends the household survey technique; here, the impacts on women, their families, communities and countries of origin are analysed. The publication states that one possibility might be a comparison of the situation of female non-migrants in the places of destination and that of female non-migrants in the places of origin. Among the variables to be considered are educational achievement, language acquisition, position within the household, housing conditions and access to social services.

The paper stresses the importance of programmes to evaluate census data and further development of existing ones on female migration (e.g., IMILA).

<STATISTICAL ANALYSIS> <METODOS> <RECOMMENDATIONS>
In search of work. International migration of women in Latin America and the Caribbean. Selected bibliography

096

Margolis, Maxine

**Women in International Migration: The Case of Brazilians in New York City.**


The paper defines Brazilian emigration to New York as a recent phenomenon, without historical precedents, and focuses particularly on migrant women, their integration into the labour force as domestic servants, and the effects of migration on gender relations. It is based on interviews with migrants.

The paper maintains that Brazilians migrate to the United States as a consequence of Brazil’s economic crisis. Migrants tend to be young men and women, in similar proportions, mainly single, middle-class and with a high level of education. However, these characteristics are not reflected in the jobs they perform, because economic restructuring has produced a demand for unskilled cheap labour in the service and manufacturing sectors.

Women tend to be more concentrated in certain occupations than men; over half of the women work as domestic servants, which has both advantages (including higher incomes than in Brazil and few housing costs) and hidden costs (vulnerability to exploitation, lack of job security).

There are changes in gender relations, particularly for women aged over 40 who experience an increase in independence. Financial independence, achieved through entry into the workforce, also affects relationships between partners. Tensions can lead to the renegotiation of gender relationships (for example, the division of household tasks), but also marriage break-ups.

097

Pedraza, Silvia

**Women and Migration: The Social Consequences of Gender.** pp. 303-325.


The author alludes to various articles that analyse the role of women in migration processes. The hypothesis put forward is that the gender perspective makes it possible to link the individual and structural levels of analysis.

The articles reviewed seek answers to the following questions: how is gender linked to the decision to migrate?; what are the characteristics of women migrants’ entry into the workforce?; how does the relationship between the public and private spheres manifest itself?; and what is the impact of this on gender relations?

With respect to the causes of migration, the author asserts that gender is a key variable in family decisions. The household represents the intermediate level between structural pressures (changes in the economy and the agricultural sector, among others) and individual decisions (rational decision).

With respect to entry into the workforce, it is noted that the migrants are concentrated in domestic service, the textile industry and ethnic enterprise (microenterprises specializing in the
production of food and other items from their own culture, often relying on the contribution of unpaid female labour).

In terms of the public/private dichotomy, the study focuses on the role of women in different areas of family and working life: workplace relations, domesticity, marriage, religion and mental health. The study underlines the importance of women as mediators between the origin and destination cultures.

Sassen, Saskia

The article represents a major theoretical contribution to studies of female migration by combining the structuralist approach with a gender perspective. In so doing it reveals the systemic relationship between globalization and the feminization of paid work. By means of a description of the structural changes in the global capitalist economy, the article shows that female migration is not something that occurs spontaneously, but rather reflects a more widespread dynamic of change.

The first part alludes to the incorporation of women in paid work, highlighting women migrants’ participation in export industries in developing countries (e.g., maquiladoras in Central America). The author asserts that the expansion of export production zones and agricultural export zones has given rise to new migration flows in developing countries: the introduction of commercial farming has led to the direct displacement of small farmers, while the increase in export industries is resulting in the breakdown of traditional labour structures through the mass recruitment of young women as workers in export production zones. Due mainly to working conditions, women migrants constitute a labour force with a dual disadvantage (class and gender). These processes may ultimately lead to a situation where internal migration to factories develops into international migration to the countries of origin of the same factories.

The second part focuses on the integration of women migrants in the United States. In keeping with her theoretical framework, the author links this integration to the changes in the United States economy (especially the rise of the service economy) that have led to greater demand for immigrant labour, particularly women. Women migrants are predominant in the service industry, where they also outnumber locals.

Lastly, the author contends that her approach complements traditional studies on female migration (which, in her view, focus on family and gender relations), and emphasizes the close relationship between the migration process and the current phase of the global capitalist economy. The author maintains that the gender dimension cannot be invoked without giving consideration to these structural processes.
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<td><a href="http://www.iom.int/en/who/main%5Fstructures%5Fgender.s#wwgi">http://www.iom.int/en/who/main%5Fstructures%5Fgender.s#wwgi</a></td>
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<td>Observatorio Sudamericano sobre Migraciones (South American Observatory on Migration)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.observatoriosudamericanosobremigraciones.cl/">http://www.observatoriosudamericanosobremigraciones.cl/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.oecd.org">http://www.oecd.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
<td><a href="http://www.rlc.fao.org/mujer">http://www.rlc.fao.org/mujer</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>International Labour Organization (ILO)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.i%D0%BB%D0%BE.org">http://www.iло.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO. Database on international labour migration</td>
<td><a href="http://www.i%D0%BB%D0%BE.org/public/spanish/protection/migrant/ilmdb/ilminintro.htm">http://www.iло.org/public/spanish/protection/migrant/ilmdb/ilminintro.htm</a></td>
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<td>ILO. ACTRAV Project</td>
<td><a href="http://www.i%D0%BB%D0%BE.org.pe/proyectoactrav">http://www.iло.org.pe/proyectoactrav</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>ILO. Gender Promotion Programme</td>
<td><a href="http://www.i%D0%BB%D0%BE.org/genprom">http://www.iло.org/genprom</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inter-American Research and Documentation Centre on Vocational Training (Cinterfor/ILO)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cinterfor.org.uy">http://www.cinterfor.org.uy</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>European Union</td>
<td><a href="http://europa.eu.int">http://europa.eu.int</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Union. EUROSTAT. Statistical Office of the European Communities</td>
<td><a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/">http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN INSTRAW)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.un-instraw.org">http://www.un-instraw.org</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### In search of work. International migration of women in Latin America and the Caribbean. Selected bibliography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization/Portal</th>
<th>URL</th>
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<tr>
<td>WomenWatch</td>
<td><a href="http://www.un.org/womenwatch">http://www.un.org/womenwatch</a></td>
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#### Non-governmental organizations, networks and portals

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<tr>
<th>Organization/Portal</th>
<th>URL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Latin America and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women’s Rights (CLADEM)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cladem.org">http://www.cladem.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee for International Cooperation In National Research in Demography</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cicred.ined.fr/welcome_f.html">http://www.cicred.ined.fr/welcome_f.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>December 18</td>
<td><a href="http://www.december18.net/e-papers.htm">http://www.december18.net/e-papers.htm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Femmigration</td>
<td><a href="http://www.femmigration.net/work_spain.html">http://www.femmigration.net/work_spain.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foro Migraciones (Forum on Migration)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sinfronteras.org.mx/foro/inicio.htm">http://www.sinfronteras.org.mx/foro/inicio.htm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Rights Watch</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hrw.org">http://www.hrw.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lateinamerikanische Emigrierte Frauen in Österreich (Latin American women who have emigrated to Austria) (LEFOE) (in German)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lefoe.at/de/mit_wem/index.html">http://www.lefoe.at/de/mit_wem/index.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>International Migration</td>
<td><a href="http://www.migracioninternacional.com">http://www.migracioninternacional.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Migration Policy Group (MPG)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.migpolgroup.com/">http://www.migpolgroup.com/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Population Council</td>
<td><a href="http://www.popcouncil.org">http://www.popcouncil.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red de Educación Popular Entre Mujeres (Popular Education Network for Women) (REPEM)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.repem.org.uy">http://www.repem.org.uy</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red de Mujeres Afrolatinoamericanas y Afrocaribeñas (Network of Afro-Latin American and Afro-Caribbean women)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.movimientos.org/mujerafro/">http://www.movimientos.org/mujerafro/</a></td>
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#### Research and academic centres

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<tr>
<th>Organization/Portal</th>
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<tr>
<td>Center for Migration Studies of New York</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cmsny.org">http://www.cmsny.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Center for Comparative Immigration Studies. University of California</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ccis-ucsd.org/">http://www.ccis-ucsd.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre d’information et d’études sur les migrations internationales (Centre for information and research on international migration) (CIEMI), France</td>
<td><a href="http://members.aol.com/ciemiparis/index.html">http://members.aol.com/ciemiparis/index.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Centro Centroamericano De Población, Universidad De Costa Rica (Central American Centre For Population, University of Costa Rica)</td>
<td><a href="http://ccp.ucr.ac.cr/">http://ccp.ucr.ac.cr/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centro de Estudios de Población (Centre for Population Studies), Argentina</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cenep.org.ar/">http://www.cenep.org.ar/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Colegio de la Frontera Norte. Mexico</td>
<td><a href="http://www.colef.mx">http://www.colef.mx</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>European Research Centre on Migration and Ethnic Relations (ERCOMER)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ercomer.org/">http://www.ercomer.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundación Programa de Investigación Estratégica en Bolivia (PIEB) (PIEB Foundation)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.pieb.org">http://www.pieb.org</a></td>
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</table>
Institute for Migration Research and Inter-Cultural Studies (IMIS) | http://www.imis.uni-osnabrueck.de/english/index.htm

Institute for the Study of International Migration. Georgetown University | http://www.georgetown.edu/sfs/programs/isim/

Inter-University Committee on International Migration | http://web.mit.edu/cis/www/migration/

Migration News | http://migration.ucdavis.edu/

Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI) | http://www.nidi.nl

The International Centre for Migration, Ethnicity and Citizenship | http://www.newschool.edu/icmec/

The Latin American Migration Project | http://www.ssc.upenn.edu/lamp/home-en.html

The Urban Institute, Washington | http://www.urban.org/

### Documentation centres and libraries

- Centro de Documentación sobre la Mujer (Women’s Information and Documentation Centre) (CENDOC) | http://www.cendoc-mujer.org.pe

- Centro de Estudios Migratorios Latinoamericanos (Centre for Latin American Migration Studies) | http://www.guiasolidaria.pccp.net.ar/migrantes/04-cemla.htm

- Centro Studi Emigrazione (Centre for Migration Studies) | http://www.cser.it/

- Isis Internacional | http://www.isis.cl


- The Caribbean Collection (Records of the Jamaican and Trinidadian Communities of Brooklyn) | http://library.brooklyn.cuny.edu/records_survey/
Issues published

1. Rural women in Latin America and the Caribbean: Results of projects and programmes (LC/L.513), September 1989.
4. Refugee and displaced women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.591), December 1990.
22. La educación de las mujeres: de la marginalidad a la coeducación. Propuestas para una metodología de cambio educativo (LC/L.1120), Marina Subirats, julio de 1997.
25. Gender, the Environment and the Sustainability of Development (LC/L.1144), María Nieves Rico, November 1998.
28. Mujer y trabajo en las reformas estructurales latinoamericanas durante las décadas de 1980 y 1990 (LC/L.1378-P), Francisco León, N° de venta S.00.II.G.94 (US$ 10.00), mayo de 2000.

30. Equidad de género y calidad en el empleo: Las trabajadoras y los trabajadores en salud en Argentina (LC/L.1506-P), Laura C. Pautassi, N° de venta: S.01.II.G.45 (US$ 10.00), marzo de 2001.

31. The collective memory and challenges of feminism (LC/L.1507-P), Amelia Valcárcel, Sales No. E.01.II.G.46 (US$ 10.00), March 2001.

32. The Institutionality of Gender in the State: New Analytical Perspectives (LC/L.1511-P), Virginia Guzmán, Sales No. E.01.II.G.58 (US$ 10.00), September 2001.

33. El turismo en la economía ecuatoriana: la situación laboral desde una perspectiva de género (LC/L.1524-P), Martha Ordoñez, N° de venta: S.01.II.G.69 (US$ 10.00), marzo de 2001.

34. La situación económico-laboral de la maquila en El Salvador: Un análisis de género (LC/L.1543-P), Ligia Elizabeth Alvarenga Jule, N° de venta: S.01.II.G.83 (US$ 10.00), mayo de 2001.


38. Las relaciones de género en un mundo global (LC/L.1729-P), Virginia Guzmán, N° de venta: S.02.II.G.40 (US$ 10.00), abril de 2002.


41. La reforma de pensiones en Colombia y la equidad de género, Consuelo Uribe Mallarino, N° de venta: S.02.II.G.101 (US$ 10.00), octubre de 2002.

42. Legislación previsional y equidad de género en América Latina (LC/L.1803-P), Laura C. Pautassi, N° de venta: S.02.II.G.116 (US$ 10.00), noviembre de 2002.

43. A cinco años de la reforma de pensiones en El Salvador y su impacto en la equidad de género (LC/L.1808-P), Ligia Alvarenga, N° de venta: S.02.II.G.120 (US$ 10.00), noviembre de 2002.

44. Género y sistemas de pensiones en Bolivia, Alberto Bonadona Cossío (LC/L.1841), N° de venta: S.03.II.G.6, febrero de 2003.

45. Las políticas públicas de género: un modelo para armar. El caso de Brasil (LC/L.1920-P), Sonia Montaño, Jacqueline Pitanguy y Thereza Lobo, N° de venta: S.03.II.G.75 (US$ 10.00), junio de 2003.


47. New contributions to the analysis of poverty: methodological and conceptual challenges to understanding poverty from a gender perspective (LC/L.1955-P), Sylvia Chant, Sales No. E.03.II.G.110 (US$ 10.00), August 2003.


49. La institucionalidad de género en un contexto de cambio de gobierno: el caso de Paraguay (LC/L.2000-P), Virginia Guzmán y Graziella Corvalán, N° de venta: S.03.II.G.161 (US$ 10.00), octubre de 2003.

50. Un acercamiento a las encuestas sobre el uso del tiempo con orientación de género (LC/L.2022-P), María José Araya, N° de venta: S.03.II.G.184 (US$ 10.00), noviembre de 2003.

51. In search of work. International migration of women in Latin America and the Caribbean. Selected bibliography (LC/L.2028-P), Silke Staab, Sales No. E.03.II.G.196 (US$ 15.00), April 2004.
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