

Presentation

THAÍS FRANÇA, CECILIA MELELLA AND BRENDA MATOSSIAN

Among a variety of discussions topics on cultural diversity governance, gender issues are nodal as they remain as a minimized and invisible research axis. Despite the quantitative growth of female migration, the qualitative changes in immigrant women profiles and trajectories and the visibility of women's role in the identity, social, cultural and political dynamics are yet themes short discussed and considered.

Moreover, new epistemologies, ethnographies and participatory methodologies have offered innovative and varied contributions as regards the questions, tools and research methods that remain virtually unknown among studies and analysis on cultural diversity management.

In this sense, the third number of "Comparative Cultural Studies: European and Latin American perspectives" aims to fill these gaps and establish itself as a thematic dossier on gender and methodological debates on cultural diversity governance.

The contributions that compose this current issue bring new theoretical reflections and valuable fieldwork insights to the debate about gender and cultural diversity governance. The heterogeneity of the discussions here presented shows the complexity of the topic, therefore, at the same time it reinforces the importance of considering gender particularities and specifies in our analysis. The present issue is divided in three different sections in order to try to present new angles for discussion on the phenomenon: scientific articles, filed notes and book reviews.

To start the third number of "Comparative Cultural Studies: European and Latin American perspectives" Emma Martín Díaz (Universidad de Sevilla) brings a brilliant overview of the theoretical and methodological challenges that migration studies face currently due to the transformations caused by advancement of neoliberalism in the social, political and economic spheres. Therefore, new explanations are needed to understand these new configurations, that although are not entirely unknown, it presents special nuances and characteristics that request a different analysis. As it has been largely stated, the economic globalization increased women's poverty forcing more and more women to migrate. Thus, transnational migrations appear as a privileged topic to reflect on transformations on gender patterns as well as on gender inequalities reproduction and legalization.

Gimena Perret's work (Universidad Nacional de General Sarmiento y Universidad de Buenos Aires) entitled "Derivas epistemológicas y metodológicas de un estudio sobre procesos de movilidad y migración transnacional en América Latina" brings an interesting proposal. It reflects the scope and challenges of multi-situated ethnographic methodological strategies applied to the Chilean migration to Argentina case study. It addresses how

the new information technologies are articulated with the political organization processes, taking into account the transnational political rights recognition disputes context.

The article “Conocimiento de las mujeres, educación y desarrollo. Modelo educativo desde una investigación-acción participativa con un grupo de mujeres Mayas en Guatemala” by Glenda Galeotti (University of Firenze) reflects on the relation between women’s knowledge, education and development practices. Methodologically it is based on investigation-action carried with Mayan women tzutuj’il from the Guatemalan highlands. The paper aims to offer an educational model that contributes to women’s social inclusion through the valorization of their knowledge.

Thaís França and Beatriz Padilla (CIES-IUL) introduce a different analysis on how gender differences shapes unequally women’s experiences, even in cases of high skilled migration. International scientific and academic mobility has gained great importance on the last decades and has been considered an important step on careers development. However gender differences have been given little attention. Most of the mobility schemes do not take in account scholars and scientific women’s career specificities and needs, reducing their chances to join international mobility programs and therefore to develop their careers. This paper discusses academic mobility through a feminist perspective to show how gender differences need to be taken in account in order to achieve a more democratic science and academia.

Moreover, Carmen Mozo González (Universidad de Sevilla) introduces us to a complex topic as traditional medicine recognition and implementation policies, based on a study focused on the “culturally appropriate childbirth” case. With her contribution entitled “Salud e interculturalidad en Ecuador: las mujeres indígenas como sujetos de intervención de las políticas públicas” shows the persistence of deep inequalities faced by these women. Her considerations show how public policies on intercultural health may finally involve a risk of cultural homogenization, precisely because the monocultural logic in this process is not questioned.

In his article, “Being a Sub-Saharan Migrant: a Glance at the Italian Case in a Gender-Aware Perspective”, Zoran Lapove (University of Firenze) reflects on the case of Sub-Saharan migrations to Italy in a gender-aware perspective. As part of the Learning for Female African Migrants’ Solidarity: Help-Desks for Female African Migrants in the Eastern Mediterranean Region Programme (LeFamSol), European Union Lifelong Learning Programme, his analysis centers on the recent migration flows originating from Sub-Saharan Africa (push/pull factors, migration projects, routes, etc.), with particular attention to female segments; social and working conditions of Sub-Saharan migrants (especially women) in receiving societies, including mechanisms of inclusion-exclusion, legal status, healthcare and employment opportunities.

The article by Soledad Balsas proposes an interdisciplinary methodological approach that combines the communication sciences and the anthropology. She uses the focus group technique to analyze a complex object such as (trans) national television audiences. Although the researches on the Italian community in Argentina were developed in a rich way during the last century, this work distinguishes the importance of the (trans) national citizenship like a strategy that promotes and facilitates equitable access to the media content.

Francesca Cuccarese and Elisa Maurizi bring us through research the experience of the anti-violence center “La Nara”, located in Prato, Italy, which allows to know through

specific quantitative data of the center the situation of women who suffer gender violence. Also, from the design of a diagnostic, makes visible and judges the methods of antiviolence usually used.

Finally, the review by Cecilia Melella focuses on Nicole Loraux's Spanish translations. From the author's studies focusing on Ancient Greece, Melella asks about the impact of the Hellenic studies on the social studies. From three dimensions: foreign and political myth, civil war and fear of disunity and feminine in the Greek city, the reviewer proposes to recover and think - taking the risk of anachronism- contemporary issues such as forced migration, gender regimes, processes of marginalization and stigmatization process.

Based on the above presented, it is possible to picture the necessity of analyzing cultural diversity governance from a gender perspective. Furthermore, it is also essential to apply innovative methodologies in order to capture different aspects of this phenomenon. This is the contribution that third number of "Comparative Cultural Studies: European and Latin American perspectives" aims to enhance to the cultural diversity studies. All said, we would like to invite you to appreciate this issue and to be inspired to continue reflecting critically on the questions here raised