

Cultural Competence & International Social Work Podcasts

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Arati Maleku: Human Migration in the 21st Century

Human migration is a natural phenomenon as old as humanity. Some people leave their places of origin to escape natural or human-caused calamities. Others leave to find better economic circumstances. And, for some, it may be the adventure of new and exciting experiences. In this episode, Arati Maleku discusses current trends in human migration, explains some of migration's challenges and opportunities, and offers suggestions on social work practice with migrant populations.



Christin Mary: India's Invisible Maids

In this episode, Christin Mary of the National Domestic Workers Movement describes her work advocating, organizing, and participating in social action to empower exploited domestic workers in India. Young women, typically from impoverished rural areas, are trafficked into cities, where their human rights are violated. Our guest describes her organization's efforts in organizing and empowering these women, as well as the legislative successes they have realized.

Chandran Chetan: Action and Empowerment in India: National Domestic Workers Movement

In this episode, Chandran Chetan continues our previous discussion of India's "invisible maids" and the human trafficking that is fostered by the demand for these workers. Here, our guest describes how the National Domestic Workers Movement builds institutional support for the workers and how they promote social action and change through the direct participation of the women in speaking out on their own behalf. Fr. Chetan highlights the movement's work in organization and unionization activities and outlines the current activity and challenges on behalf of this exploited population.



Dr. Manisha Joshi: Attitudes Toward Intimate Partner Violence Among Women in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan

In this episode, Dr. Manisha Joshi utilizes a unique lens to look at a familiar topic. She describes her research regarding the role of changing attitudes related to intimate partner violence (IPV) in three Central Asian countries. Dr. Joshi discusses what she has learned about the context in which IPV occurs in these countries and its impact on help-seeking and reporting behavior of the women who live there.

Aster Teclé: Where is 'Home'? Interpreting Youth Discourse and the Politics of Displaced Youth

Ms. Teclé discusses her current research on the experiences of immigrant youth participating in youth programs. She examines the complexities of identity formation among Horn of Africa immigrant youth and how those youth create place and space in a larger sociocultural structure that often labels difference as "misfitness."



Dr. David Patterson, Silver Wolf (Adelv unegy Waya): Promoting Wellness and Challenging Cultural Narratives in Native American Communities

Dr. David Patterson describes the Three Sisters and other core ideas that informed the creation and evolution of the Native American Center for Wellness Research. This discussion explores how the Center builds programs that enhance the educational experiences of Native American students, researches and promotes Native American wellness, and collaborates in peace and social justice ceremonies in the community.

Dr. Md. Tuhinul Islam: Residential Childcare: The Experiences of Children in Bangladesh

Dr. Md. Tuhinul Islam takes us on a journey to Bangladesh, where he studies the experiences of children in residential childcare settings. He describes how and why children find their way to these settings and what he is learning about outcomes, including those who leave those institutions.



Dr. Erik Nisbet: International Conflict and Social Identity: The Influence of Mass Media on "Us vs. Them" Thinking

Dr. Erik Nisbet discusses how perceptions of international conflict and terrorism across national contexts are shaped by the interplay of mass media frames and social identity schema. Dr. Nisbet describes the parallel processes that occur in the United States and the Muslim world.

Dr. Richard Smith: A Social Worker's Report from the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Dr. Richard Smith describes his attendance and experiences at the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Highlighting Social Work's long history of working to improve environmental conditions, end poverty, and foster social development, Dr. Smith discusses the conference's takeaways and the implications for social work practice.



Dr. Rebecca Thomas and Dr. Jill Witmer Sinha: Microcredit, Women Entrepreneurs, and Nonprofits in Kolkata: Social Work's Local and International Role

Microfinance is recognized as an anti-poverty tool and a conduit for financial assistance and capacity building. In their research, Drs. Rebecca Thomas and Jill Witmer Sinha examine differences between the benefits provided by nonprofit and for-profit microfinance institutions specifically as they pertain to women. Drs. Thomas and Sinha present findings from a case study of one program in Kolkata, India highlighting the array of complementary services offered to microloan clients and their potential for bridging the gap between the "haves and have-nots."

