

Call for Contributors

Title of the Book:

Migrant Workers: Social Identity, Occupational Challenges and Health Practice

Co-Editors:

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Publisher:

NOVA Science Publishers, Inc.

Premise of the Book:

The regulation of migration and the rights of migrant workers are among the most controversial policy issues around the world. In public debates, migrants can be development “heroes” for both receiving and departing communities, “free riders” who threaten the job and welfare security in host communities, and/or “victims” of exploitation by employers and by migration policies as well. Theoretical arguments that favor open-border policies emphasize the responsibility liberal democracies have to promote global and/or distributive justice; proponents for migration restriction argue that equal rights protection for migrants runs against the interests of states and even migrant workers themselves. Consequently, countries around the world have adopted various practices of protecting (or regulating) migrant workers and promoting migrant friendly communities. Differential policy regimes and practices are influencing migrant workers’ wellbeing across diverse domains. This volume will address this timely and challenging topic.

Social Identity. Migrant workers need to constantly negotiate discourses of cultural and ethnic boundaries to explain their migration experiences and at the same time rework discourses of their social identity. In this process, the formation of social identities, as transnational workers, new urban community members, and/or immigrants and returnees, are subjected to local community contexts and located at the interplay of social structure and economic agencies.

Occupational Challenges. Migrant workers are often employed in occupations with known health and safety concerns, as well as status segregation (including employment, race, ethnicity, nationality). Challenges in employment and workplace influence not only migrant workers’ health and financial wellbeing, but also contribute to migrants and migrant families’ social integration as they seek experience of belongingness and esteem in the new community and society.

Health Practices. Migrant workers do have unique behavioral patterns of health and mental health service use. Nonetheless, migrant workers’ behaviors are responding to structural parameters in the receiving community and society; the promoting of health and psychosocial wellbeing of migrant workers is related to the integrity and ethical practices of a larger society.

Migrant workers are not merely a group of people who passively wait to be accepted, integrated and cared for in migrant destinations. Migrant workers also bring in strong cultural values and practices that help them cope with the process of integration, and individuals and communities of shared cultural heritage offer strong supports promoting health and wellbeing.

Expectations for Your Chapter:

- Thorough Discussion – Discuss your proposed migration/migrant workers’ issue(s) with theories, literature and best evidence.
- Intersectionality – Intersect your proposed migration/migrant workers’ issue(s) by race, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, economics, environment, social status, rural or urban context, across disciplines as appropriate.
- Policy and Practice – Offer policy and practice implications and/or emphasize a professional (e.g., health, psychological, advocate) practice with migrant workers.

Logistics:

20-25 pages typed, double-spaced (12-point font). Citations and references should follow APA publication guidelines.

Time Table and Deadlines:

An abstract of 300 words that outlines the content or proposed work is highly recommended and due to the editors no later than August 1st, 2015. Chapters are due on October 1st, 2015.

Questions may be directed to qxu2@tulane.edu and jordanlp@hku.hk on the subject line please put “Migrant Workers Book”.

Final Note:

We encourage you to write a chapter that you are proud of and pleased to share. As editors, we will work collaboratively with authors and the publisher to ensure that the book is coherent and integrated.