

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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Challenges
of the 21st
Century: Democracy,
Environment,
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Intersectionality

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Socio-Technical Controversies between Agribusiness and Agroecology: Reappropriation and Practices of Family Farmers in the Semi-Arid Region of Ceará.

In Ceara (semi-arid Northeast Brazil), although still fragile, the sociotechnical system "agroecology" has established itself as an alternative to the dominant agribusiness. The controversies and clashes between the respective public and private actors that defend them highlight two polarized visions for the rural territory.

In this work conducted in the Jaguaribe region, we questioned these controversies in the face of family farmers' practices and analyzed the determinants of farmers' practices. The methodology associated a participatory systemic and multi-actor diagnosis coupled with semi-structured interviews with farmers (40) and institutional representatives. On one hand, the two socio-technical poles were characterized (actors, visions, rules, instruments and mechanisms for strengthening, etc.). On the other hand, farmers' practices determinantes were analyzed through the framework of sustainable livelihoods and historical perspective.

In the field, the two systems coexist, increasing farmers' capacity to adapt. Without getting too involved in the controversies, farmers pragmatically take advantage of the opportunities offered by both systems to implement their life strategies: instruments (public and private), narratives, rules. Innovative practices often arise from this re-appropriation. They are sometimes in contradiction with the initial purpose of the instruments of both systems (such as subsidies, credits, etc.) that were designed within a polarized vision.

Access to opportunities remains strongly dependent on key actors, in often clientelistic relationships. Information and debate arenas are informal and not very inclusive. This contributes to the great heterogeneity in the capacity of farmers and communities and to social-environmental inequality. The absence of a formal local governance framework may favor adaptability and innovation at various levels (individual, family, community, ...). But at the territorial level, the lacking of natural resources management increases socio-environmental vulnerability.

RC02-JS-70.5

BUSH, MELANIE E* (Adelphi University, USA)

Actors on the Stage of Change: The United States

The system as a whole – economic, political and social – is in a crisis of new proportions. In the United States, traditional rhetoric and ideology of the American Dream, Horatio Alger upward mobility and nation of no limits are being tested and strained.

A past project explored people's views about the contemporary moment and was published in 2015 in *Tensions in the American Dream: Rhetoric, Reverie or Reality*. We wanted to know how ordinary people in the U.S. reconcile the current economic and political crisis with the rhetoric of endless possibility. We discovered a deep concern that the stories being told about the exceptionalism of the United States and opportunities for limitless accumulation, wealth and well-being might not actually be true.

As scholars rooted in grassroots movements since the 1970s we were already aware of the energy afoot to actually be and build "the change", not only demand it from the current elite. Their questions led us to investigate what *are* people doing, both in the U.S. and globally and how they conceptualize their efforts.

The research discussed in this presentation brings an ethnographic lens to the experiences of individuals and communities involved in creating structures to address the challenges that they currently face. This paper shares some of what those involved have to say about their hopes, dreams and practices. The project methodology combines oral history (interviews) with ethnography (participant observation) and background research to explore the ways of thinking and experiences of people involved in "be the change" efforts over the last decade.

RC05-JS-76.5

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Who Are "We"; Who Are "They"? Race, Nation and Structures of Belonging

Situating the emergence of social phenomena such as race and nation within coloniality, Eurocentrism, and the modern world, this paper offers reflections about the state of white supremacy in the United States in the context of the organization of global society in the contemporary moment. Central arguments draw from analytic and ethnographic work particularly done in and about the U.S., given the nation's historical rise and global positioning.

Central questions explored include: What do we who study white supremacy seek to accomplish through our inquiries and how do these goals align with or diverge from that of social movements working to address its structural manifestations? In what ways is a framework of "zones of being and non-being" (Fanon) relevant to scholarship and praxis seeking to contribute to the struggle for a humane and just future? What defines the vision of the social world that we seek individually and collectively? Has it ever existed? Do the frameworks of "decoloniality" or "pluriversality" describe a world to fight for? If not, what is the appropriate language?

How is power (from above and below) to be reckoned with – both historically and in the contemporary and future contexts? What is the state of ideas about what the future "should" bring and what evidence do we have of those visions being actualized in building transformational structures and networks around the world? This returns us to questions of "Who are 'we'?" Who are "they"? Does it Matter? How?

RC31-JS-58.4

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Practices of Motherhood and New Ways of Defining and Doing Both Home and Family: The Dreamer Moms in Tijuana, Mexico

For more than two decades, the area of migration studies has paid attention to the intersection between motherhood, transnational families, and migration. Those early studies shed light on the reconfiguration of the family structure in general and that of women and their relationship with their social identities as mothers in particular as a result of the migration process. In those studies, however, the effects of migration policies on the reconfiguration of the family structure did not occupy the analytical attention of the researchers at that time. With the implementation of IIRIRA in 1996, not only did the criminalization of immigrants and their families begin, but also the securitization of the border intensified, leading to a new reconfiguration of the family structures of migrant communities. In this new context, scholars began talking about a "gendered and racial removal project," given that out of the 4.2 million people deported from 2003 to the end of 2013, 91 percent were from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras and 90 percent were men. Although most deportees are men, a significant number of women are also deported.

Drawing on an ongoing ethnographic fieldwork consisting of open-ended and in-depth interviews to a group of deported immigrant mothers, known as DREAMERS' Moms USA/Tijuana A.C residing in the border town of Tijuana, Mexico; we examine the family reconfiguration process that both mothers and their children experience as a result of the process of deportation. Particularly, we explore how these "familias transfronterizas por deportación," develop a new set of caring practices for their families to cope with both legal and structural violence that these families endure on both sides of the US-Mexico border. Specifically, we focus on how these families reclaim new ways of defining and "doing both home and family" in a context of uncertainty created by deportation.

RC02-36.6

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Escalation of Inequality Resulting from the Neoliberal Reforms in the Ukraine

Prior to the reforms the Ukraine had been one of the developed European countries and had good opportunities to further develop the efficiency of the economy and the prosperity of the population. The reforms didn't live up to the expectations as they had been designed by IMF for developing countries and were aimed at creating the most favorable conditions for "core" countries to maximize their profits at the periphery of global capitalist economy.