Furthermore, it would be beneficial for replications of this research to conduct the experiment in person rather than online. The implementation of the fictional crime story, whether it is an audio or video or written file, could be presented in front of a group of people who could be more likely to pay attention in such a setting. Conducting the experiment in person would also be beneficial to the testimony. Participants may feel pressured to be more thorough in their descriptions with the experimenter or other participants present. The experimenter could also stress the importance of giving a complete testimony.

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# Female Migrant Workers and Their Families: Abused and Abandoned


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Subject: Labor Studies


## Abstract


This paper explores the effects of globalization on female migrant workers as well as their families. Since the mid-1900s, an invisible crisis has been occurring: the exploitation of migrant women and the suffering of their children. With particular reference to the edited volume, *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*, I examine the consequences of this abuse, the ramifications of maternal severance, and potential solutions for protecting female migrant workers and their children.


In the 1960s, globalization, the international exchange of goods, people, and ideas, reshaped traditional female roles, resulting in more employment opportunities for women globally. In developed nations, female employees were in high demand because they were "considered to be 'docile' workers, willing to obey production demands at any price" (Bacchus 2). Yet, the mothers among these working women discovered that house care and child care were too much to handle in addition to full time employment. Consequently, a void was created that led to job opportunities for women in developing countries. Shortly thereafter, many women began migrating to developed nations to fill domestic work positions, such as nannies and maids – "the work that affluent women no longer felt inclined or fit to do themselves" (Ehrenreich & Hochschild 3). These domestic positions offered higher wages and a sense of independence for migrant women, serving as a "pull" factor for women to leave their homes and families. Other contributing factors included a sense of escape from marital abuse and poverty and, more so, a need to provide for their families. With the understanding that earning higher wages would create a better life for both them and their children, these mothers were forced to make an extraordinary sacrifice and leave their children behind, sometimes with their husbands but more often with sisters or their own mothers. Many sending countries even had active government encouragement for their women to fill domestic positions globally, "reasoning that migrant women are more likely than their male counterparts to send their hard-earned wages to their families rather than spending the money on themselves. In general, women send home anywhere from half to nearly all of what they earn" (Ehrenreich & Hochschild 7). Thus, over time, developing nations formed an economic dependency on the remittances from their working migrant women, while developed nations simultaneously formed a reliance on the services these women provided.

However, migration to a foreign country without connections or, in some cases, legal documentation, in addition to the presence of language barriers, has left many of these

women fearful and unaware of their legal rights, subjecting them to exploitation at the hands of their employers. Commonly, migrant women involved in domestic work are exploited through excessively long work shifts void of breaks or overtime benefits. According to Nicole Constable, author and professor of anthropology and international studies, "Most studies suggest that domestic workers work much more than ten hours a day, and they receive no overtime pay" (124). Although many workers sign employment contracts that specify the length of shifts, number of work days per week, and wages, employers often neglect this and continuously demand more from their employees. Furthermore, these female migrant workers face various forms of abuse. "A 2012 survey of 3,000 domestic workers in Hong Kong, home to an estimated 320,000 domestic staff, found that 58% had reported verbal abuse, while 18% said they had been physically assaulted and 6% claimed to have suffered sexual abuse" (Falconer & Kelly).

Yet, employees, either overly submissive or fearful of being fired, rarely advocate for themselves. Their financial needs take precedence above all, including dignity and self-respect. As a result of this abuse, many female migrants suffer both mental and physical consequences on their health. Furthermore, the separation from their children serves as additional mental torture. However, the mothers are not alone in their suffering; devastated by the repercussions of familial severance, their children, too, manifest distress in the form of mental and behavioral health issues. Yet, keeping an open line of communication between the mothers and their children, in addition to developing the children's understanding of the benefits produced by migration, can ease their anguish and, moreover, positively shape their character and resilience.

Among all those involved in such migration, women suffer disproportionately from the exploitation they experience. Such exploitation triggers a downward spiral of consequences. Working well over ten hours a day, domestic workers are at a greater risk of developing illnesses as a result of sheer exhaustion. Yet, exceedingly few are given sick days off and cannot afford to be ill. Others face injuries as a result of the physical demand of their labor. Sickness and injury both jeopardize the workers' futures at the hands of their employers. They selflessly sacrifice their health, happiness, and humanity for their families, vastly unaware of the legal rights that protect them. Even the few who understand their rights and attempt to stand up for themselves find not justice, but rather brutal retaliation. Writer and women's rights researcher for Human Rights Watch, Rothna Begum, exemplifies this abhorrent reality with the story of Latika, a thirty-year-old Bangladeshi domestic worker in Oman. After being hired by an Omani man, Latika's employer "did not pay her salary for 5 months, beat her when she asked to be paid, confiscated her passport, and made her work 15 hours a day with no rest or day off" (Begum). Experiences and stories like Latika's leave female workers apprehensive of speaking out, fearing that any form of defiance against employers will only pull them deeper into the cycle of exploitation and abuse. Oman receives hundreds of thousands of female migrants from countries such as Ethiopia, India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, the Philippines, Bangladesh, and Nepal. Yet, this is just one country where migrant exploitation exists. As of 2013, there were over 214 million migrant workers worldwide, approximately 50% of which were women (Inter Press Service News Agency). Because "household workers remain, in large part, uncounted and invisible to the larger economy," the number of women who are exploited is predominantly unknown (Ehrenreich 91).



Professor Lynn Rivas of Rider University explains, "To be made invisible is the first step toward being considered nonhuman, which is why making another person invisible often precedes treating them inhumanely" (79). The invisibility of caring for children and the home behind closed doors enables such inhumane treatment not only through physical and mental abuse but additionally through sexual abuse. "In one horrific case, a domestic worker broke both her legs and fractured her spine when she fell from a window as she tried to escape a rape attack by her employer. Her attacker then proceeded to sexually assault her as she lay on the ground, injured and unable to move. Only afterwards did he call an ambulance" (Cafiero & Badger). Yet, despite her substantial injuries, a lack of evidence ruled her employer unaccountable. The woman was left wheelchair bound, incapable of continuing her physical labor, and returned to the Philippines, no longer able to provide for her family. Cases like these, leave migrant women fearful and helpless as they submissively yield to the demands and abuses of their employers, enduring the relentless consequences.

However, female migrant domestic workers are not the sole victims; their children who are often left behind in their home country suffer traumatic implications as well. Distraught by severance from their mothers, these children become subjected to illness, behavioral issues, and more. According to a survey conducted by Manila's Scalabrini Migration Center, "Compared to their classmates, the children of migrant workers more frequently fell ill; they were more likely to express anger, confusion, and apathy; and they performed particularly poorly in school. Other studies of this population show a rise in delinquency and child suicide" (Hochschild 22). These varying degrees of emotional aftermath reflect the sheer destruction of prolonged separation between child and mother. At a pivotal point in their lives in which a mother's guidance and love can be crucial, these children are missing out on imperative nurturing that can only be accomplished when the mother is physically present. As a result, children not only suffer immediate consequences but also face long-term issues. Liza Yanovich, featured writer for the Migration Policy Institute, explains, "Children left behind lack job opportunities and may develop psycho-emotional problems often associated with an inferiority complex. This can lead to youth unemployment and juvenile delinquency" (Yanovich). As a result, these children in developing countries show higher rates of delinquent tendencies and suffer both mental and behavioral issues that create an unstable youth and ultimately lead to unemployment. This instability hinders the quality of their futures and renders the efforts of their mothers to improve their children's standard of living, futile.

Yet, the ramifications of this motherly void can be lessened by deliberately maintaining an open line of communication between mother and child, as well as developing the child's comprehension of the mother's sacrifice. Foremost, the mothers who consistently communicate with their children back home demonstrate that their love and affection has not disappeared. The comfort and affection that their children experience through such frequent communication keeps them headed down the right path. While children who feel an overwhelming sense of abandonment develop emotional and behavioral issues, the ones who stay connected with their mothers go on to find success. For example, Ellen Seneriches, the twenty-one-year-old daughter of an immigrant mother, has not seen her mother in twelve years. Yet Ellen credits her academic success to her mother. "Ellen graduated at the top of her class in both high school and college. She says

that the constant, open communication she shares with her mother provided the key to her success" (Salazar Parreñas 43). Through a positive relationship, Ellen's mother manages to provide financially, while also offering care and counseling from afar, drastically shaping Ellen's future in a way that sets her up for success. Moreover, children like Ellen find additional comfort in understanding the specific benefits produced by the sacrifices of their migrant mothers. Through such comprehension, these children may also refine their character, developing certain esteemed qualities.

The Scalabrini Migration Center, a nongovernmental organization for migration research in the Philippines, surveyed 709 elementary-school-age Filipino children in 2000, "[discovering that] if the extended family supports the child and makes him or her aware of the material benefits migration brings, the child may actually be spurred toward greater self-reliance and ambition" (Salazar Parreñas 44). Because such well-informed children understand the purpose of their mothers' struggles and suffering, they come to realize the purpose of their own suffering, producing a spirit of self-reliance and ambition. The development of these qualities drives the children toward success as they resist falling into a pit of despair or straying off the path. Thus, their emotions and behaviors are less likely to spiral out of control, and they will be better equipped for employment and a positive future.

Ultimately, female migrant domestic workers have one common goal: to improve the quality of life for themselves and, more importantly, their children. Yet, exploitation at the hands of their employers persists as a significant but vastly invisible issue that hinders them. These women, and, by extension, their children, deserve protection. As Bridget Anderson, professor of migration and citizenship, argues, "The most effective way to protect them is to make sure that they have basic employment rights, as well as access to the means to implement those rights. For migrants, these rights begin with work permits" (113). Providing them with basic employment rights would also render them more visible, thereby empowering and humanizing them. As Joy Zarembka, Associate Director for the Institute for Policy Studies, argues, "One simple improvement would be to establish independent monitoring and counseling like that which is provided to au pairs. Access to independent social workers, lawyers, and monitors would furnish live-in domestic workers with a system of safeguards to protect their legal rights and ensure employer compliance with contract conditions and labor laws" (150). Globalization maintains its capacity to improve the quality of life for all. With a system of safeguards, migrant workers will be able to work while being protected by labor laws. As they will no longer be subjected to their employers' exploitation, migrant women will be able to better sustain relationships with their children they left behind, providing the necessary parent-paradigm for them to fulfill. Thus, it is critical that migrant women become equipped with knowledge of their rights and are freed from the dehumanizing treatment of their employers in order for them to create a better life for themselves and their families.



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# The Treaty of Rome and Peacemaking in Europe

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Subject: History

## Abstract

This paper attempts to expose links between regional economic integration, and its relationships with prosperity and peacebuilding. This is accomplished through analyzation of the Rome Treaty, a 1957 multilateral agreement establishing a common market between six Western European countries. Since its signing, a dramatic deviation has ensued within the continent, marking a shift from cutthroat economic competition and war, to increased living standards, cooperation and peace. In deconstructing these effects, core elements of the treaty are divulged. Additionally, its perceptions, characterizing a spectrum of discomfort and optimism, are considered. Finally, the long-term outcomes of the treaty are analyzed through secondary material.

The twentieth century brought a monumental transformation to Europe. The first half brought an increasing imperialist competition amongst European states. Dangerous leaders fueled ethnic nationalism, allowing gross human rights abuses and eventual mass destruction to occur. These battles escalated during this period until their culmination in World War II leaving Europe reduced to ruins. From this devastating low, a destroyed Europe would ultimately realize economic prosperity and sustainable peace. This began by abandoning the ideologies of the past while taking steps to integrate economically and politically.[1]

The goal of deep integration resulted in many complex multilateral agreements among European countries. Despite the economic arrangements that came before it, such as the European Steel and Coal Community, the signing of the Rome Treaty on March 25, 1957, was the first major policy step to substantially move towards a more unified Europe.[2] More importantly, the Treaty of Rome was the groundbreaking step that moved Europe towards the integrated region they are today. As stated by Global Conflict Resolution expert John Ette, "European Integration was more than a mere attempt to correct the atrocities of WWII. Rather, it was an attempt to devise an innovative, regional system that would minimize the proliferation of conflict moving forward, fostering peace and prosperity across the continent."[3] In many ways, the Treaty of Rome has accomplished the very outcomes its founders sought, marking a strong deviation from the system of belligerence that dominated prior to its signing. In an in-depth analysis, the treaty focus-

1 John Umo Ette, "The Impact of Economic Integration Within the European Union as a Factor in Conflict Transformation and Peace-Building." (MSci diss. Portland State University, 2014: 3-5).
2 Desmond Dinan, *Europe Recast: A History of European Union* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 2004).
3 John Umo Ette, "The Impact of Economic Integration," 72.