

Abstracts

S.S. HALLI AND A. KAZEMIPUR: "Plight of Immigrants: The Spatial Concentration of Poverty in Canada".\

The recent rise of poverty in North America has not only revived some of the old controversies in poverty discourse, but it has also stimulated some new ones. Among the old controversies, perhaps the most persistent one is as how to define poverty. A second, perhaps less controversial, area of debate has been revolving around identifying the most vulnerable groups in the face of poverty. Single-parent families (especially the female-headed ones), children, aged, disabled, and the urban dwellers have been frequently singled out as the main targets for poverty. The current debate on poverty in Canada has largely left out a likely vulnerable group, that is, the immigrants and especially those of certain ethnic origins. Not only are immigrants over-represented in the population below the poverty line, they are highly over-represented in another dimension of poverty, that is, the 'Spatial Concentration of Poverty' (SCOP) or poverty at the neighbourhood level. The present study has a heavy focus on this dimension of poverty. First, the Spatial Concentration of Poverty is explained. Second, an inter-city comparison of SCOP is made for the census years of 1986 and 1991. The comparison shows that Quebec and Prairie CMAs are consistently over-represented in the category of cities with a higher-than-average SCOP index. Third, the distribution of immigrants in cities and areas of high SCOP is shown. The comparison of different groups of immigrants in different cities reveals that the magnitude of SCOP for certain groups of immigrants such as Vietnamese, Spanish, Blacks, Filipino are alarmingly high.

D. LEY AND H. SMITH: "Immigration and Poverty in Canadian Cities, 1971-1991".

This paper maps the incidence of deep poverty in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver, and then examines the spatial associations between concentrated urban poverty and the location of immigrants in 1971 and 1991. Correlations show considerable stability through time and also between cities, despite the changing immigration cohorts entering Canada between these dates. Consistently the spatial associations between immigrant characteristics and deep poverty (and also use of government transfer payments) were less important than other socio-economic variables.

L. LO AND S. WANG: "Settlement Patterns of Toronto's Chinese Immigrants: Convergence or Divergence?".

Chinese immigrated to Canada not only in different time periods, but also from different origins. Their settlement experience is diverse and the spatial outcome is a dispersed and yet

concentrated pattern with much intra-group variations. Based on the 1991 census data, this paper attempts to explain such variations through a socio-economic analysis of the dominant sub-groups of Chinese in the Greater Toronto Area. The results indicate polarization between those born in Hong Kong and Taiwan and those born in Mainland China and Vietnam. This case study illustrates how social, economic and political structural changes in both immigrant source and host countries, and the uneven impacts of the globalization process, can shape and reshape ethnic settlement patterns in major metropolises. The findings have implications on ethnic settlement theories and policies.

M. SIEMIATYCKI AND E. ISIN: "Immigration, Ethno racial Diversity and Urban Citizenship in Toronto".

By defining citizenship not only as a set of legal obligations and entitlements which individuals possess by virtue of their membership in a state, but also as the practices through which individuals and groups formulate and claim new rights or struggle to expand or maintain existing rights, this paper explores three domains of immigrant and ethno cultural group-citizenship in Toronto. After we provide a profile of immigrant groups along ethnic, class, and space dimensions, we examine the participation and mobilization of diverse groups in the urban movement which arose in 1997 to oppose the Province of Ontario's intention to create an amalgamated megacity of Toronto. Next we examine results of the 1997 municipal elections in the Greater Toronto Area. And finally we explore claims on public space, through parade permit requests on Toronto's streets. Taken together, these three domains of civic engagement permit a multi-dimensional assessment of immigrant and ethno cultural citizenship in Toronto.

P.S. LI: "Self-Employment Among Visible Minority Immigrants, White Immigrants, and Native-Born Persons in Secondary and Tertiary Industries of Canada".

Two explanations may account for immigrant entrepreneurship. The first one suggests that immigrant business or ethnic self-employment is an alternative to blocked mobility in the open market for minority immigrants. The second explanation argues that the immigrant enclave economy is a viable arrangement that offers attractive returns to immigrant business owners, making self-employment more desirable than employment. Using micro data from the 1991 Census of Canada, this paper compares the pattern of self-employment and average earnings among visible minority immigrants, white immigrants, native-born visible minorities and native-born white Canadians. The findings show that self-employed visible minority immigrants were heavily concentrated in the retail trade, and accommodation and food services, and that the pattern of self-employment among white immigrants was similar to that

among native-born white Canadians. Among all self-employed groups, native-born white Canadians had the highest earnings, and visible minority immigrants the lowest, after adjusting for differences in other variables. The immigrant status produces a negative effect on earnings of self-employed persons, but it impacts visible minorities more severely than white Canadians. The visible minority status adversely affects earnings of self-employed immigrants, but less so for their native-born counterparts. The study finds evidence that both blocked mobility in the job market and earning advantage of self-employment over employment contribute to minority immigrants engaging in self-employment.

M. WALTON-ROBERTS AND D. HIEBERT: "Immigration, entrepreneurship, and the family: Indo-Canadian enterprise in the construction industry of Greater Vancouver".

In this paper, we examine the issue of immigrant and minority entrepreneurial behaviour through an interview-based case study of Indo-Canadian-owned construction firms in Greater Vancouver. Our research addresses three major concerns raised in theoretical and policy-related debates. First, our results add to the growing weight of scholarship that challenges the tendency toward polarized interpretations of ethnic entrepreneurship. In the Vancouver case, we find a complex inter-relationship between positive and negative consequences for both entrepreneurs and workers in these firms. Secondly, we highlight the importance of the family in the creation of small businesses among minority groups. And, thirdly, in documenting the effervescence of entrepreneurial behaviour within a group that has generally entered Canada through family unification programs, we seek to show that the sharp distinction made between the family and economic classes of immigrants -- both in academic analysis and in policy debates -- may be misleading. In pursuing these questions, our research contributes to a broader understanding of contemporary economic restructuring and the role that immigration plays in reshaping the Canadian labour market.

J. SMART: "Borrowed Men on Borrowed Time: Globalization, Labour Migration and Local Economies in Alberta".

The internationalization or globalization of trade and migration is a much debated topic in the current era of the 'New Times' variably labelled as postmodernism, post-Fordism, post-industrialism or what David Harvey calls regimes of "flexible accumulation." It is widely accepted that globalization and free trade agreements (e.g. NAFTA) directly contribute to the strengthening of corporate power and profit at the expense of the workers who are facing greater job insecurity, wage polarization, rising demand on flexibility in skill and working conditions, and on-going cut backs in social programmes. Flexibility has clearly become a major operating principle and rationale in work (re)organization. This paper attempts to

concretize the interrelationship between globalization and the flexibilization of labour and capital through the lens of work migration into Alberta from Mexico. Based on field studies conducted in 1997, this paper presents the working lives of seasonal Mexican workers on a farm in a small rural community in SE Alberta, their transnational movements between Mexico and Canada, their economic strategies in both countries and the many social and economic linkages connecting Canada and Mexico as mediated through transmigration, wage remittances and employment programmes.

H. GRANT AND R. OERTEL: "The Supply and Migration of Canadian Physicians, 1970-1995; Why We Should Learn to Love an Immigrant Doctor".

In light of the reemergence of the spectre of an impending shortage of physicians, this paper examines the trends in the supply, income and migration of Canadian physicians. Following implementation of the 1964 Hall Commission's recommendations, both the number and the earnings of Canadian physicians exhibited a strong upward trend. Restrictions on provincial health care spending after 1991 brought the growth in both to an abrupt halt. As physicians' economic prospects within Canada worsened, interprovincial movements declined, and the rate of emigration increased. In this new economic and policy environment, we suggest rejoining the issue of immigration as a vehicle for addressing the provision of health care services in Canada.

K. J. KRÓTKI: "How the Proportion of Artificial Canadians varied among Regions of Canada and Ethnic Origins between 1991 and 1996".

In the 1996 [1991] census respondents have been invited to report as many ethnicities, as they may have had among their ancestors; 10 [8 in 1991] million respondents reported 24[21] million multi-ethnicities. The other 18[19] million (=29-10)[=27-8] continued as single ethnicities.

Multi-ethnicities are the outcome of inter-ethnic marriages, and thus an indicator of social integration. However, behind the 24[21] million multi-ethnicities there are only 10[8] million real persons. The other 14[13] million are "artificial Canadians". This number will rise to 50 and 100 million with increasing integration.

In 1996 respondents were also invited for the first time to report 'Canadian' as ethnic origin. Over three million swelled the number of multi-ethnicities and artificial Canadians. Over 5 million reported as single 'Canadian'. Artificial Canadians seem to be better indicators of integration than single 'Canadians'.

The regional distribution of the two indicators is presented. For example, the conservative west will learn that it is more liberal with regard to intermarriage than the east. Quebec has by far the highest proportion of 'Canadians'. And so on. The role of Statistics Canada in preserving the comparability in multi-ethnicities, artificial Canadians, intermarriages, and integration is stressed.

U. GEORGE AND E. FULLER-TOMSON: "To Stay or not to Stay: Characteristics associated with newcomers planning to remain in Canada".

The purpose of this article is to determine the characteristics associated with those who plan to remain in Canada permanently versus those who are planning to leave or who are uncertain about their future plans regarding residency. The purposive sample consists of 242 adult newcomers (both landed immigrants and refugees) interviewed in 1996 residing in one of four locations at the time of the interview: Metropolitan Toronto, Ottawa, Windsor, or Thunder Bay. Bivariate and multi-variate logistic regression were conducted. Immigrants who were sure they were going to stay in Canada were two and a half times more likely to be married and to have some social support network (O.R.=2.47 and 2.44 respectively, $p < .05$). In the bivariate analysis, another variable, presence of a social support network on arrival was significantly associated with long-term residency plans. Two additional variables, being employed and having children, were marginally associated with long-term residency plans ($p < .10$) in the bivariate analysis but not the multivariate analysis. Implications of these findings for policy and practice are discussed.

M. McANDREW AND M. LEDOUX: «Evaluation of the Relative Impact of Various Factors Responsible for Ethnic Concentration in French Language Schools on the Island of Montreal» [Évaluation de l'impact relatif des facteurs influençant la dynamique de la concentration ethnique dans les écoles de langue française de l'Île de Montréal].

The purpose of this study is to identify and analyse various factors responsible for ethnic concentration in French language schools on the island of Montreal. We attempt to estimate the relative importance of socio-ecological factors, such as the residential concentration of the immigrant origin population in the school's neighbourhood, as distinct from factors related to school organization, such as the maintenance of a confessional structure and the distribution of immigrant welcoming classes [classes d'accueil] in various schools. The database used was supplied by the Conseil Scolaire de l'Ile de Montréal using registration information for the year 1992-1993. To explore the impact of these various factors, we analyse the geographic spread of the school population, comparing the target population (principally, students born outside Canada and/or whose parents were born outside Canada) with the non-target population

(students born in Canada with parents born in Canada). Finally, this study proposes a typology of schools with heavy ethnic concentration according to the various factors responsible for this concentration.

J. BERNHARD, S. NIRDOSH, M. FREIRE AND F. TORRES: "Latin Americans in a Canadian Primary School: Perspectives of Parents, Teachers and Children on Cultural Identity and Academic Achievement".

This study is part of an extensive research project on Latin American immigrant children, their teachers and families. Through participant observation in one designated Toronto school, we captured the perspectives of 10 students, their parents and teachers. An additional 35 families from other schools were interviewed to test the trustworthiness of the initial analysis. Our central purpose in the present paper was to look at: a) educators' common-place explanations of the children's academic performance; b) parents' efforts to help their children's educational process; and c) parents' experiences in maintaining cultural identity and language in the family. Three case histories are presented to illustrate the issues. Cultural capital is proposed as a variable which helps explain the differential performances of the children.

A. GERMAIN: «The Stranger and the City» [L'étranger et la ville].

This article suggests revisiting the early literature on the meaning of the Stranger in the modern city. Such a reflection would be particularly salient to today's cosmopolitan cities. Unlike those who enthusiastically support community cohesion, the author points to the importance of distance in the construction of social links in a metropolitan context as well as forms of sociability in public areas. She briefly illustrates this theme by means of excerpts from a study on multiethnic neighbourhoods in the Montréal region.

E. FULLER-TOMSON, J. LEE, E. LAWSON, N. CHAUDHURI AND M. THOMPSON: "Self-Care Strategies for Managing Respiratory Illness in South-East Toronto: Life Histories of Chinese and Caribbean Immigrants".

This research project builds on a community-initiated process in South-East Toronto to investigate the problem of respiratory illness among poor, inner-city immigrants. We conducted life history interviews with 26 immigrants (16 Cantonese-speaking Canadians and 10 Caribbean Canadians) to examine the meaning of respiratory illness in their lives. This paper explores these immigrants' major strategies for managing their illness: the use of Western and traditional medicine, avoiding triggers and managing the environment, diet, exercise and educating themselves about the disease. Relevant program and policy implications.