

Theme 4 *Gender, Work, Political economy*

- Objectives
- To understand the gendered nature of work and political economy;
 - To understand how globalization and economic restructuring have altered the nature of work and development;
 - To highlight how globalization allows for a stronger exploitation of female labor force and sexuality;
 - To envision alternative economic policies that are more just and equitable from a gender perspective;
- Focus questions
- How does a 'gender perspective' result in a deeper understanding of the political economy? What are the inter-linkages between the global, the national and the local political economies from a gender perspective? What does this knowledge suggest about alternatives for practice?
- Relevant cases
- Farmer suicides and the impact on women in India ([link](#));
 - Gendered nature of informal work : see collection at ([WIEGO](#)) website (available in English and Spanish);
 - **Banmujer**, the women's bank in Venezuela ([link](#)). See also, Nina Lopez (ed.) *Creating a Caring Economy* which discusses how Banmujer "is part of the process of revolutionizing Venezuela's economy: promoting grassroots self-activity backed by the oil revenue". Nora Castañeda, Banmujer's President is an economist and an advocate of Article 88 of the Bolivarian constitution which recognizes housework as a gainful economic activity contributing to national income.
 - Please see our bibliographic guide on **Migration and Work** which contains a narrative text, citations and abstracts of all cited articles ([link](#))

Illustrative readings

Afshar, Haleh (ed) (2003). **Women, Globalization and Fragmentation in the Developing World**, New York: Palgrave.

Beneria, Lourdes. (2003). **Gender, Development and Globalization: Economics as if People Mattered**. New York: Routledge.

Budlender, D. (2000). "The Political Economy of Women's Budgets in the South", **World Development** (28) 7.

Datta, Bishaka (2005). "Not a Sob Story: Representing the Realities of Sex Work in India" in Misra, Geetanjali and Chandiramani, Radhika (eds) **Sexuality, Gender and Rights: Exploring Theory and Practice in South and Southeast Asia** New Delhi: Sage Publications.

Deewan, Ritu (1999) "Gender Implications of the New Economic Policy" **Women's Studies International Forum** 22.4, 425-429.

De Pauli, Liliana (ed) (2000). "Women's Empowerment and Economic Justice: Reflecting on Experience in Latin America and the Caribbean". **UNIFEM**: New York.

Ehrenreich, Barbara and Arlie Russell Hochschild (eds.), (2003). **Global Woman: Nannies, Maids and Sex Workers in the New Economy**. New York: Metropolitan Books.

Fernandes, Leela (2001). "Rethinking Globalization: Gender and Nation in India" in Devoken, Marianne (ed) **Feminist Locations: Global and Local, Theory and Practice**, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.

Jagori, Migration (2004). **Trafficking and Sites of Work**, New Delhi: Jagori ([link](#)).

Jagori. (1998), **Trafficking in South: A Conceptual Clarity Workshop**, New Delhi ([link](#)).

Kabeer, Naila (2000). **The Power to Choose: Bangladeshi Women and Labour Market Decisions in London and Dhaka** New York: Verso.

Mohanty, Chandra (1997). "Women workers and capitalist scripts", in Alexander & Mohanty, eds. **Feminist genealogies, colonial legacies, democratic futures**. New York: Routledge.

Valentine M. Moghadam (2005). **Globalizing Women**, Baltimore: John's Hopkins University Press, 21-49.