

## **Social Reproduction & Temporary Labour Migration to Canada**

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This research project examines the relationship between temporary labour migration to Canada and reproduction of the migrant labour force. Specifically, it assesses the Temporary Foreign Workers Program and the amendments proposed in 2010 through the lens of “social reproduction”, as a way to better understand the effects of the scheme on migrant workers, their households and their communities.

It is widely assumed that temporary labour migration schemes, with the exception of the Live-in Caregiver Program, do not impact women as the workers are predominantly male. This assumption ignores not only the fundamental effects of the schemes on women as workers, as it is clear that women make up a significant and growing proportion of foreign workers, but it also ignores the real and lasting effects on women in the families of workers and on women members of the communities in which the workers live.

As the analysis demonstrates, these effects are felt both in sending states and here in Canada. In fact, a key finding of this research is that in Canada, as has been documented elsewhere, schemes facilitating the temporary migration of workers consistently allocate the costs of social reproduction onto migrant workers, their families and sending states. This allocation, which is marked by processes of racialization, shapes the rights, remedies and overall labour market outcomes of/for these workers.