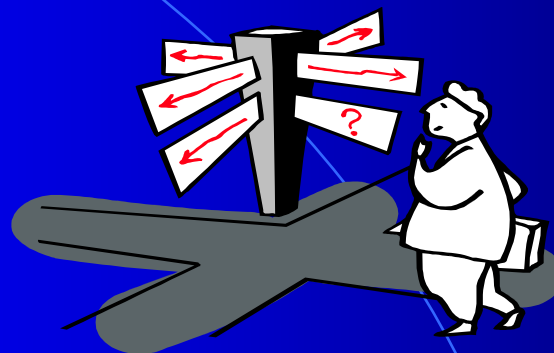


Global Migration, Political Mobilization & Emerging Communities

Discrimination, Anti-discrimination & Production of Knowledge
Workshop



11th International Metropolis Conference
Paths & Crossroads: Moving people, Changing Places
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Periodical Turning Points as a Framework for This Study

- **WW II and Displaced people (1945-1955)**
- **Golden Era and Multiculturalism (Early 1970s - Late 1980s)**
- **The reversal - Liberal conservative coalition government (1996 onwards)**

New Intakes: WW II and Displaced People (1945-1955)

Purpose of large intakes

- **National**
- **International**

Intake characteristics

- **Targets**
- **Preferences**
- **Learning and challenges**

Golden Era

A Positive Turning Point in Australian History of Migration (1970s-1980s)

- **Reasons**
- **Directions**
- **Major area of policy change**
- **Recognition of diversity**
- **Intake target**
- **“Multiculturalism”**

Reversal or Payback Time

A Negative Turning Point
by the “Conservative Coalition Government”
(1996 onwards)

- **Policy changes in immigration and welfare policies**
 - Cut backs in budget
 - Cut backs in immigration intake
 - Cut backs in on-arrival & settlement services
 - Defence and international affairs
- **Directions**
 - Exclusion
 - Mainstreaming
- **Impacts**
 - Increase in poverty
 - Increase in obvious discrimination & racism
 - Increase in gap between poor & rich, others & dominant culture
 - Direct dependency on international political ups and downs
- **Role of Media**



Why the Turning Point Occurs?

Global Economic Restructuring & Development in East and West:

- International energy crisis (Oil).
- Growth of the “Tiger Economy”.
- International migration movement (skilled & unskilled movement from East to West and West to East).
- Capital movement from West to East and East to West.
- Conflicts, wars (between countries, among ethnic groups).
- Identity crisis (nationally & internationally via bi-culturalism and multiculturalism).
- Contradictory nature of modern states (social democratic, welfare state, nation state and multicultural societies).

(Miles 1990; Castles & Miller 1993; Cohen 1997; Collins 1998; Held 1999; Castles 2000, ; Lalich 2003; Gholamshahi 2006)

Settlement Issues

- **Supportive Networks**
- **Housing**
- **Income**
- **Immigration**
- **Health (Mental and physical)**
- **Education (Qualifications)**
- **Employment/ Training**
- **Family (Breakdown, DV, Custody, Spouse...)**
- **Isolation and exclusion**
- **Racism/Discrimination**
- **Legal issues, civil law**
- **Politics (National & international....)**
- **Integration (Social & cultural shock)**
- **Representation**

Migrants as Members of the Newly Arrived & Emerging Communities

- Length of residency.
- Political, social and cultural conditions which cause migration and increasing complexity of settlement process).
- Population of the community.
- Variety of immigration categories for entrance into the host society (Australia).
- Structure of the community (class, ethnicity...)
- Diversity of community members (political, social, cultural and economic).
- Community infrastructure.
- Lack of supportive networks: (legal, political, social and cultural representation).
- Prohibitive conditions.
- Lack of trust.
- Contradictory feelings (fear & willingness to integrate).

Flashback: NESB Choices of Reaction

Ghettos:

- Bonding process becomes faster & wider
- Bridging process becomes slower & limited

Conflict & Violence

Passive Positions

Active position: Community solidarity, effective integration:

- Increase bonding & bridging networks to introduce & establish required changes as multicultural society to residents and citizens.
- Political & social participation & engagement as change agents, advocator & pioneers.
- Unification with other like minded groups nationally & internationally.

Crisis Impact in Absence of Justice, Equality and Support

- **Self consideration as “*others.*”**
- **Physical & mental illness (lack of confidence & self-esteem, feelings of loss and failure).**
- **Social problems & issues such as drug and alcohol abuse, violence, neglect, assault, family breakdown, crime & conflict.**
- **Interruptions in education, employment & socialising.**
- **Isolation.**

“Others” are pushed to:

- **Find that they need to rely on their internal networks.**
- **Feel that the fight for freedom, equality & safety never ends.**
- **Concentrate in certain suburbs to improve access to the limited resources provided by their internal (bonding) networks – for survival purposes.**
- **Have an underlying awareness that settlement & integration will be a challenging, difficult & painful, if not impossible process .**

***Therefore NESB are excluded as
“others” forever***

Role of “supportive networks & welfare services” in the settlement process

- Exchange information and experiences.
- Provide options to the ethnic community members particularly women, children and other disadvantaged community members.
- Meet basic needs (particularly when the support is poor, welfare system is absent, and lack of extended family relations).
- Survival tools.
- Communication and representation (social, cultural and political).
- Creation of change agents and community leaders in favour of integration and settlement (bonding and bridging).
- Empower community members (access, equity, discrimination...) especially those most disenfranchised and disadvantaged.

Recommendations

- ✓ **Community infrastructure,**
- ✓ **Facilitation of networks for bonding and Bridging,**
- ✓ **Establishing inclusive laws, acts & policies,**
- ✓ **Abolishing discriminatory and restricted laws, acts & policies,**
- ✓ **Full Citizenship “Entitlement”:**
 - **Political participation and involvement**
 - **“Access and Equity”**