

•enabling the dominant culture to continue to shape mainstream institutions with minimum disruption thereby reasserting the hegemony of the dominant groups; and

•allowing the state to provide the conditions necessary for global capital competitiveness through the availability of skilled low cost labor while simultaneously ensuring that immigrant integration is achieved in structural selective ways without overburdening the neo-liberal state.

The impact of transferring the financial costs of immigrant integration through the mutually reinforcing dynamics of voluntarism, downloading, and privatization on immigrant settlement workers has remained invisible and hidden, in part, because the state is able to draw upon already existing assumptions of women's traditional role in providing care and support, and on assumptions around cultural "differences" in racialized ethnic minority communities' responses to their members' social welfare needs.

Due to lack of space, I have not discussed strategies of resistance and advocacy in this essay, yet a number of strategies of resistance are being employed to resist the negative effects of restructuring (Creese, Owen). Increased cooperation, reorganization of work, coalition advocacy, more critical analyses and research, better communication strategies are all being undertaken. Yet these strategies also need to be subjected to critical gender and race sensitive analyses, since these strategies are also traversed by societal assumptions and hegemonic practices. Nevertheless, the opening of a sub-sector of human welfare services that is primarily based on the labour of immigrant women has allowed a space where immigrant women are able to assert themselves as active citizens in civil society. Excluded from other spheres of public life, the space provided by immigrant integration and multiculturalism policies is, and continues to be, a space of possibility for affirmation and for broadening

immigrant and refugee women's inclusion into the public sphere.

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TANYA CLARK

Grasping those waspy wings of happiness.
So close I can almost feel the breeze upon my aching smile.
Ravenous circles of over indulgence,
burdens of overactive thoughts.
Oh! something I will never be dragging down all that I am.
Ripping my blinded eyes from thin distorted sockets.
Reflections untold, and unfamiliar belong in the coldness of
my palm,
as I watch life revolve around my tired bones.
and listen for salvation in the silence of my despair,
that offers no hope.

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