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Family Oriented Migration Policies & Social Integration



DEFINING FAMILY

— Vanier Institute of the Family

- “Any combination of two or more persons who are bound together over time by ties of mutual consent, birth and/or adoption or placement and who, together, assume responsibilities for variant combinations of some of the following: . . . The definition includes at least one relationship between an adult and another person (adult or child) – a relationship *over time*, which signifies that a commitment has been made.”

DEFINING INTEGRATION

— Oliver (2013:9)

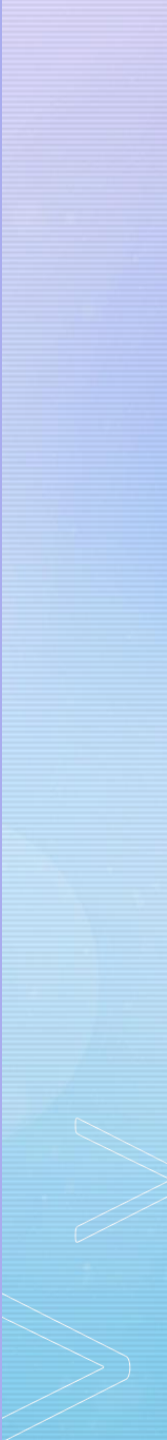
- “a multi-dimensional process, occurring structurally (through access to core rights and status in key institutions such as the labour market, education and through political membership); culturally (through processes of cognitive, cultural, behavioural and attitudinal change of both migrants and receiving societies); socially (through private relationships and group memberships and finally through identificational integration, through which an immigrant feels a sense of belonging to the receiving society”

INTRODUCTION

- Pathways of family migration
 - Accompanying, delayed reunification
- Conventions/Directives
 - UN Conventions, EU
- Changing policy environment
 - “Managed” migration and human capital theory
 - Post 9/11

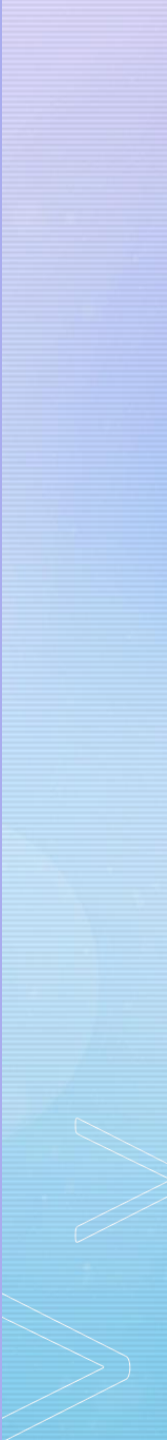


OVERVIEW

- Immigration status
 - Family composition
 - Requirements for sponsors and applicants
 - Family separation and reunification
 - Intersectional implications
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EXAMPLE: CANADA

- Immigration status and families
 - Defining family
 - Reunification (nuclear family) or sponsorship
 - On-going issues
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RECOMMENDATIONS

- Embrace a more holistic definition of the family
- Revisit requirements of sponsorship agreements
- Remove mandatory cohabitation
- Find ways to reduce processing times
- Invest in integration and attend to social inclusion
- Deploy an intersectional lens
- Implement longitudinal, multigenerational research agenda



Craig 2013: 64

“Until this potentially disastrous phenomenon of racism is first acknowledged and then effectively addressed at European, national and community levels, much of the vast amount of energy put into the integration of migrants, summarized here, will just be wasted.”

Thank you

Merci Beaucoup

Muchas Gracias

Shukraan

Xie Xie

Spacibo

