

Labour Market, Public Policies, and Migratory Networks **Fragmentation of the working class in Almeria's greenhouses**



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Diversification and complexity in internacional labour migration

strategies, migratory networks, labour market demand, etc.

migratory
patterns

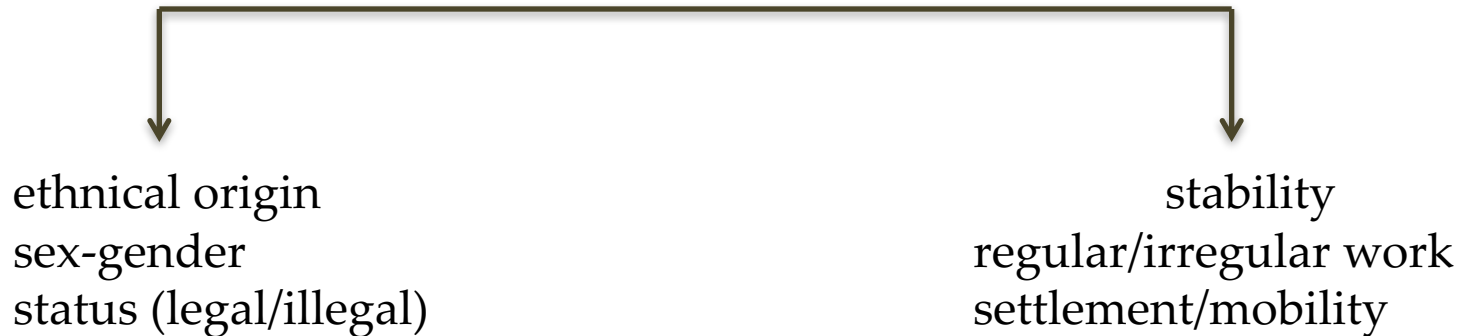
hiring
channels

mobility /settling
forms

(Gadea,
Ramírez &
Sánchez)

- Maghrebian and Sub-Saharan
- Latin American (Ecuadorean)
- Eastern Europe

Fragmentation of the working class



(Thomas, Wells)


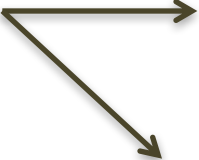
Hierarchical construction of workers categories

market + policies + legal system

- Sexual-ethnic segmentation
- 'Permanent' / temporary workers → migratory utilitarianism (Morice)
- Reserve army of labour – irregular work – just a one-time help?

- I own 7,000 meters, I'm a farmer. I spend several months on my own in the crops, and I do occasionally hire. (...) Then, just figure, in my exploitation, I just tell my brother, "José, get someone to help me". Then, what if the [Labor] Inspectors come... Just tell me, what if the inspectors come and find me out, just because I hired someone for half a day... And I having to.... This is all so sad. You just tell me. I don't have anyone, and just the one day that something comes up... (...) Then, there are times that they keep harping on about it, and I just don't know... What with the inspections, what with the robberies. We are so unprotected here (Raquel Herrera, farm owner).
- Don't your parents hire wage workers? No... Maybe. They're growing old. If they had to weed the pepper fields and that stuff... Well, they have some younger person do the weeding. But they keep at it all day long, Monday to Sunday (Ana Jiménez, growers' daughter).

Conclusions

- Maintenance of intensive agriculture: - reproduction of vulnerable positions (Pedreño)
- employment regimen (Castro)
- Working class fragmentation  market – public – legal
logics policies system
- Social origin of growers – pride in being ‘self -made’ – immigrant work as a ‘help’
- Perspective challenge 
 - From efficacy-based labor organization analyses,
to work and life sustainability (not only labour conditions)
 - From instrumental views (de Lucas),
to focus on labor, rights and citizenship (Alonso)