

Amerrika. Women and migration.

Introduction

Androcentrism consists of placing male human beings at the centre of the world, its culture and history. In the past men used to have a higher academic education than women. Therefore, texts and ideas reflected the male point of view.

This is the cause of the supposed “superiority” of men over women, that has resulted in gender violence, not only in the domestic life but also professionally.

The film *Amerrika* tells the story of a Palestinian woman who decides to migrate to the USA with her teenage son, where her sister is already living. She is tired of her life and scared of the Israeli military checkpoints she has to face everyday.

Among the factors that cause international migration we have: family formation or reunification, labour, studies, war refugees....

Many migrant women have to suffer double discrimination because of their colour or their religion. Very often they have to endure labour abuses, with long working hours and badly paid jobs.

Sometimes, these difficult situations give women from traditional societies more independence from their husbands and parents and also make them stronger and more powerful. If immigrants have their children with them, they may experience family tensions because children adapt more quickly to the new language and way of life.



Activities

To watch a trailer in Spanish of the film **Amerrika**:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=DqZbwRes8Lo



Answer the questions. Read them and make sure you understand everything before you start watching the film.

1. What is Muna's job in the West Bank?
2. Does she look happy in her job? Why?
3. Did she behave like a traditional Muslim woman? Why?
4. What's Fadi like? Is he affectionate towards his mum?
5. How are they treated at the airport? Do you think it's fair?
6. Muna's sister looks very modern compared to her. Is she really? Is she happy in the USA? Compare the personality of the two sisters using two adjectives.
7. Do you think Fadi acts correctly getting into fights? What would you do if you were in his situation?
8. Why doesn't Muna tell her family about her real job? Is she suffering from any type of discrimination?
9. Do you think Muna is a good influence in the restaurant? Why?
10. What type of future will Muna and Fadi have? **Finish the story after the family meal.**