Women in the global economy; Marxism and Feminism in a complex world

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Abstract

The intention behind this paper is to inquire about the linkages and tensions between Marxist Political Economy and Feminist Political Economy and how they can illuminate the complexity of women’s issues in contemporary times. This paper calls into question the notions of ‘solidarity’ and ‘unity’ present heavily in feminist literature arguing that they neglect the relationships between core capitalist and periphery countries and how they produce dependencies between women in the Global North and South. I argue that firstly, that mainstream feminism and economics and their favored approaches both hide and exacerbate inequalities between women. Secondly, they misdirect resistance and mobilization shifting focus away from a materialist conceptualization of liberation.

Keywords: feminism, marxism, capitalism