Caring Law: Reframing US Human Rights Legislation for Migrants Using Care Ethics

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Migrant Rights: A Global Responsibility

- Why should we care about migrant rights?
- Paradox of the State: Responsibility and Perpetrator
- Citizenship: providing it doesn’t expand accessibility
- Living in fear: rights aren’t permanent
Care Ethics and Law

♫ Changing the way we see laws:
♫ Care ethics: feminist, relational moral ethics
♫ Laws should care about us!
♫ Developing a legal framework that addresses human rights and accessibility
Federal
- Chinese Exclusion Act (1882)
- National Origins Act (1924)
- Immigration and Nationality Act (1954)
- Immigration and Naturalization Act (1965)

WA State
- Alien Land Laws (1864)
- 2019’s Keep Washington Working (KWW) Act
- 2020’s Courts Open to All Act (COTA) (UW)
Legal Intentions

- Even between Federal and National Laws:
  - Early intentions were influenced by racial bias against all immigrants
  - Developed in response to white supremacy
  - Purposeful Identification: citizen v. noncitizen

- THE CHANGE:
  - A caring community: recent WA state laws have focused on the well-being of migrants, especially since the Civil Rights Movements of the 1960s
Theoretical Framework: Stages of Care, not Cycle

Going beyond intentions:
- Developing a legal framework that addresses human rights and accessibility
- Human rights laws look different in the United States
- Laws:
  - HB 1090 bans For-Profit Detention
  - Education and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)
  - funds Migrant Education Program (MEP)
  - Courts Open to All Act (COTA) (UW) (2020)
Conference Rubric

Remember:

• Five slides
  • Uncluttered—four bullet points, six-eight words per point
  • Visuals welcome
  • Simple background and font colors, nothing bright
  • No animation if possible, brief clip only if less than a minute
Critical Inclusions

• Title, name, major
• Connection to global framework of interdependency
• Your intervention, i.e., your solution or recommendations
• Your question
• Theoretical framework
• Methodology
• Results
• Tie back to your intervention and global framework