Migrant Domestic Workers and Family Life
International Perspectives

Edited by

Maria Kontos
Institut für Sozialforschung an der J.W. Goethe Universität,
Frankfurt am Main, Germany

and

Glenda Tibe Bonifacio
University of Lethbridge, Canada
Contents

Acknowledgments vii
Notes on Contributors viii

1 Introduction: Domestic and Care Work of Migrant Women and the Right to Family Life 1
Maria Kontos and Glenda Tibe Bonifacio

Part I Framing Legalities, Employment, and Family Rights

2 Transnational Domestic Work and Right to Family Life in International and European Law 27
Dorothee Frings

3 Au Pair Arrangement in Norway and Transnational Organization of Care 52
Mariya Bikova

4 License to Care? Migrant Domestic Workers in Spanish Employment and Family Policy 73
Elin Peterson

5 Invisibility, Exploitation, and Paternalism: Migrant Latina Domestic Workers and Rights to Family Life in Barcelona, Spain 88
Gabriela Poblet Denti

Part II Public Discourse, Family Separation, and Reunification

6 Growing Up With Migration: Shifting Roles and Responsibilities of Transnational Families of Ukrainian Care Workers in Italy 109
Olena Fedyuk

7 Family Rights in a Migratory Context: Whose Family Comes First? 130
Magdalena Diaz Gorfinkel

8 Live-in Caregivers in Canada: Servitude for Promissory Citizenship and Family Rights 145
Glenda Tibe Bonifacio
Contents

Part III  Remote Mothering, Survival Strategies, and Mobilization

9 Reinventing Intimacy and Identity: Filipina Domestic Workers' Strategies for Coping with Family Separation in Dubai  
Julia Lausch  
165

10 Renegotiating Family and Work Arrangements while Caring Abroad: Paraguayan and Peruvian Women in Argentina  
Aranzazu Recalde  
189

11 In the Grips of Work/Family Imbalance: Local and Migrant Domestic Workers in Slovenia  
Majda Hrženjak and Mojca Pajnik  
211

12 The Transnational Family as a Resource for Political Mobilization  
Valerie Francisco  
231

Part IV  The Metaphor of “Family Member”

13 Struggling to Make Time for Family: Work and Family Life of Korean-Chinese Institutional Care Workers in South Korea  
Seong-gee Um  
257

14 Being a Member of the Family? Meanings and Implications in Paid Migrant Domestic and Care Work in Madrid  
Simone Tappert and Marianne Dobner  
276

15 “Weekend-Families” of Migrant Domestic Workers in Lebanon  
Amrita Pande  
300

16 Right to Family Life and Reciprocity of Care: Prospects for Care of Aging Migrant Carers  
Maria Kontos  
317

Epilogue: The Meaning of Rights to Family Life  
Glenda Tibe Bonifacio and Maria Kontos  
332

Index  
337