

Migration, Islam and Masculinities: Transforming Emigration and Immigration Societies

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Hegemony, Subordination, Marginali- zation? Migration and the Construction of Masculinity

Referring to the concept of „hegemonic masculinity“ (R.W. Connell) I will ask where in the matrix of hegemony, subordination, complicity and marginalization masculinities of migrants are located. First, I will explore the relation of these four types of masculinity. Second, I will argue for a differentiated view on migrants' masculinities. The discussion on the relation of migration and masculinity (or, generally, of migration and gender) is mostly focussed on the social situation of underprivileged migrants. But at least a good portion of intra-European migrants are high qualified professionals. This observation causes the question: Does being a migrant have a different impact on the construction of masculinity depending on which of these two types of migrants a person belongs to. My hypothesis is that the masculinity of underprivileged migrants is more determined by being a migrant than the masculinity of qualified migrants. In the latter case, the professional status outweighs the migration status. This gives access to hegemonic patterns of masculinity whereas the masculinity of underprivileged migrants is a subordinated and often marginalized masculinity.

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