

De-colonizing Disability Theory I – Crippling Development  
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**"But they are simply cheaper": the Commoditization of Migrant Care Work**

Hired domestic and care work, the form of employment which seemed to be on the verge of disappearance in modern society, today provide a private solution to a public problem to an increasing degree. Migrant women as providers of care work, for instance, leave their own home for work because they perceive this as the only way to sustain their family. Thus contemporary social organization of care is systematically connected to structures of the global economy and social inequalities. Contemporary Czech Republic is in the process of transforming its social system which is not capable of providing adequate care for its senior citizens. In recent years we have witnessed an increase in the number of mediating agencies that import mainly Ukrainian migrants for the purpose of engaging them in care work focusing on elderly people. As I found in my ethnographic research, agencies that mediate jobs and their clients (families, which hire caregivers to take care of their parents and their relatives) together form a specific "product" of care. In my paper I will argue that this specific „product“– Ukrainian female caregiver – is based on the intersection of gender, ethnicity and migration inequalities.