

Food Justice, *Nervios*, and the Unequal Burden of Misery

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Global labor markets under neoliberal capitalism create all sorts of pressures for migrant laborers from the global South to migrate to the US for work. In the case of Ecuadorans, this is typically movement for labor in the food industry. This paper is a reflection on one of the primary damages to sending families of this global process—a sickness labeled as *nervios*. Reflecting on years of traveling to Ecuador and speaking with people there in a place-based classroom teaching about globalization processes, I outline *nervios* as an illness that is often brought on by the outward migration by workers reacting to the discipline of global labor markets. I argue that conceptions of food justice might serve as a way of reducing/addressing *nervios* and the unequal burden of misery visited upon families and communities in Ecuador under the existing organization of global capital. [Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: <http://www.transformativestudies.org> ©2014 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]

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