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Gender and class relations in tourism employment

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Abstract

Drawn on anthropological fieldwork (Sennen, UK), this paper focuses on the forms of interaction within families whose female members were engaged in tourism and the relations between visitors and local women. Their relations were found to be of three kinds: as markers of the boundary between local and national stratification systems; as the relational boundary between locals and visitors; and as demonstrating form of deferential interaction between them and tourists.

This was offset by an increased social and physical distance between host and guest as class convergence occurred. The Lifeboat Guild as a social institution illustrates the complex structuring of social relations between local women and those who have moved into Sennen.

RÃ©sumÃ©

Les femmes et les classes sociales dans les emplois touristiques. Cet article, basÃ© sur

LES FEMMES ET LES CLASSES SOCIALES DANS LES EMPLOIS TOURISTIQUES. Cet article, basé sur une enquête anthropologique à Sennan (Royaume-Uni), examine les formes d'interaction dans des familles où les femmes travaillent dans le tourisme et entre ces femmes et les visiteurs. On trouve trois sortes de relations, qui démarqueraient la ligne entre la stratification locale et nationale, les relations entre les habitants et les visiteurs, et une manifestation de la différenciation entre les deux groupes. On trouve, par contre, que la distance sociale et physique entre résidents et touristes augmente quand les classes sociales ont convergé. Le Cercle de Sauvetage (Lifeboat Guild), en tant qu'institution sociale, illustre la structure complexe des relations sociales entre les femmes locales et celles qui visitent Sennan.



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Keywords

women; domestic employment; stratification; differential interaction; host and guest; Lifeboat

Mots-clés

femmes; emploi domestique; stratification; interaction différentielle; habitant et visiteur; canot de sauvetage

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