Seminar week 14

Week 14- Lecture 13
Production and World Politics
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"The convergence of capitalist values and liberal conceptions of democracy is a global phenomenon, remaking **notions of citizenship in the image of the market**" (Isabella Bakker 2003).

1. How useful is the concept of commodity chains in analysing new patterns of power and inequality in the global economy?

The market is neutral?

"That is, while neo-liberalism promotes – indeed, depends upon – a feminization of the workforce, it also exposes more women and men to market forces, in the process producing a similarity of experience for some of them" (Isabella Bakker 2003).

What is meant by neo-liberalism here?
What came before neo-liberalism?

The neoliberal critique of government is not government in an abstract general form, but rather the specific form of distortion of the market economy that arose in the postwar era. All these perceived distortions were the result of democratic influence on economic decision-making.

Figure 1. Guess where this image is from?

"In general, the lower the per-capita income of a U.S. trading partner, the higher the share of U.S. **arm's length trade**, indicating that this is all about low wages" (Suwandi et al 2019)

"This creates a situation where production and consumption in the world economy are increasingly severed from each other." (Suwandi et al 2019)

Does this matter? Why?

Labor theory of value (Marx)

2. What role has gender played in international restructuring? In what ways are changes in systems of production effecting established gender relations?

What is social reproduction?

Social reproduction is defined as the social processes and human relations associated with the creation and maintenance of the communities upon which all production and exchange rest. (Isabella Bakker 2003).

If interested in this topic for your essay or exam, please do read up on Marx, David Harvey, Wallerstein, Robert W. Cox, Robert Gilpin and of course the recommended reading list of this week.