Already in America: Transnational Homemaking among Liberian Refugees

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Abstract

This article explores how refugees at the Buduburam Liberian refugee settlement in Ghana constructed and imagined home in and through a place they have never been to—“America.” Drawing on ethnographic examples of homemaking at Buduburam, this article develops the concept of entanglement to show how preferences for and access to the three durable solutions of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees were influenced by centuries of transnational homemaking embedded in the histories of the transatlantic slave trade and colonization of Liberia. Refugees preferred and practised resettlement not as a final destination, but as an active form of transnationalism. The reconfiguration of homemaking through the lens of entanglement demonstrates the importance of developing migratory policies and practices that are attentive to historic and future forms of inequality.

How to Cite

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The former government administrator and Liberian refugee says she put in her time working, paid her taxes and now just wants to go home. Bit by bit, she is packing her things and saving up for a co. Across America, time is running out for thousands of Liberians who came here in the face of a grinding civil war, staggering poverty and disease. Some have already lost their legal right to be here. For others, their protected status will expire in less than a year. But for all, there's an inescapable reality - those who have made a life in the U.S. now. We already know Joe Biden was involved there. It turns out that two of the Ukrainian oligarch's that ran PrivatBank, a large bank that got $1.8 billion in US aid and 'lost' it, laundered hundreds of millions of dollars through over a dozen shell companies & then used the laundered $ to purchase real estate in Cleveland. — I Have Not Yet Begun To Pounce – Brian Cates (@drawandstrike) August 7, 2020. Advertisement - story continues below. So let's review what happened over the last 3 days. Trump's enemies got a huge tripwire tripped from two simultaneous FBI raids ta