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TRANSLINGUAL DISCRIMINATION

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Translingual Discrimination

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Abstract: Moving beyond two main concepts of interlingual and intralingual discrimination, this Element addresses the concept of translingual discrimination, which refers to inequality based on transnational migrants' specific linguistic and communicative repertoires that are (il)legitimised by the national order of things. Translingual discrimination adds intensity to transnational processes, with transnational migrants showing two main characteristics of exclusion – translingual name discrimination and its associated elements such as name stigma and name microaggression; and translingual English discrimination and its elements such as accentism, stereotyping, and hallucination. The accumulation of these characteristics of translingual discrimination causes negative emotionality in its victims, including foreign language anxiety and translingual inferiority complexes. Consequently, transnational migrants adopt coping strategies such as CV-whitening, renaming practices, purification, and ethnic evasion while searching for translingual safe spaces. The Element concludes with the social and pedagogical implications of translingual discrimination in relation to transnational migrants.

Keywords: translingualism, discrimination, English, migrants, transnationalism

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