

STUDIES IN MODERN CAPITALISM—
ETUDES SUR LE CAPITALISME MODERNE

CREATING AND TRANSFORMING
HOUSEHOLDS

THE CONSTRAINTS OF
THE WORLD-ECONOMY

This book seeks an explanation of the oft-observed pattern of sharp discrepancy of wage levels across the world-economy for work of comparable productivity. It explores how far such differences can be explained by the different structures of households as “income-pooling units,” examining three key variables: location in the core or periphery of the world-economy; periods of expansion versus periods of contraction in the world-economy; and secular transformation over time.

The authors argue that both the boundaries of households and their sources of income are molded by the changing patterns of the world-economy, but are also modes of defense against its pressures. Drawing empirical data from eight local regions in three different zones—the United States, Mexico, and southern Africa—this book presents a systematic and original approach to the intimate link between the micro-structures of households and the structures of the capitalist world-economy at a global level.

Studies in modern capitalism. Etudes sur le capitalisme moderne

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CREATING
AND TRANSFORMING
HOUSEHOLDS

The constraints of the world-economy

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