
T-Shirt Travels

Assignment 3

Due September 27, in breakout section

NEOLIBERALISM AND EVERYDAY LIFE IN ZAMBIA

Our goal in this module is to have some general understanding of the important issues—and debates—surrounding economic globalization. We want both to understand how the global economy has changed over the last few decades, and how those changes have impacted different places around the world. If the models on which economic policies are based, in other words, might be characterized by their lack of sensitivity to geographic differences, our task is to highlight them. Further, we want to understand the diversity of opinions on the trends in the global economy; that what may seem intuitively obvious to us, may not in other places.

This brings us to *T-Shirt Travels*, which shows Zambia's changing relationship to the global economy through the lens of an everyday item: clothing. In the 1960s, Zambia had a vibrant domestic apparel industry. Today, all of those factories have closed down, to be replaced by cheap used clothing imported from North America and Western Europe. The film shows the consequences of development policy decisions on everyday life.

For next week, I would like you to write a 2-3 page paper addressing the following question:

We have examined the general interactions between debt, neoliberal policies as promoted by global institutions like the IMF, and local economic development. How does *T-Shirt Travels* show how these issues came together around the traffic in used clothing in Zambia?