Janice Stiglich
Dissertation Research Project

Janice Stiglich’s research deals with the liminal status of working girls as contributing members of the Peruvian State. Their plights for dignified work or against child labor at large, place them within interesting theoretical paradigms which have not been explored intersectionally by sex, class, race, and age. If girls striving to end child labor are adamant about their involvement in exploitative work, should there not be an additional consideration of their status concerning the danger that is associated with that work? Likewise, if there is work that is seen to enhance children’s competencies and abilities for interpersonal communication, could this be understood as dignified labor?

In order to better understand the girls’ positions on their subjectivation, she will be working with two groups. First, she will work with girls associated with La Casa de Panchita’s AGTR (Association of Work Network Groups) called: Somos el Presente y Queremos Cambiar el Futuro (We are the Present and We Want to Change the Future) in Cajamarca, Peru. Somos is a group of girls that are opposed to child labor as they believe that it is exploitative and often makes it difficult for children to attend school. Their goal is to have an end to child work so that education can become the child’s true work. On the other hand, she will also be collaborating with MANTHOC (Movement of Working Children and Adolescents, Children of Christian Laborers) in Lima, Peru. Whereas Somos are working girls that do not wish to labor and want to effectively change the future of children in terms of exploitative work, MANTHOC seeks to change the future of working children to allow them dignified labor without exploitation. She will travel to both Cajamarca and Lima in for a few months each for ethnographic work in Spring 2018.