

On the Relevance of the Concept of “Globalized Tourism Formation”

Dr. Jean Muteba Rahier
Florida International University
*Associate Professor of Anthropology
and African & African Diaspora Studies Director*

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Globalized Tourism Formation

- Sociohistorical processes that create specific spaces of encounter on the “global stage,” where seductions of difference and desires for it meet or collide, and by which social categories are created, inhabited, transformed, inverted, and sometimes destroyed and reinvented
- Always involve more or less conscious “exotic” seductions of, and desires for, the “un-familiar.”

3 Globalized Tourism Formations: Academic Tourism

- Actors
 - Faculty, administration and students of home university
 - Faculty and administration of foreign university
 - Vendors (housing and restaurant)
- Form of income for foreign actors

3 Globalized Tourism Formations: Academic Tourism

- The project of academic tourism put together by these various social actors or stakeholders works to link structural realities (American or global north students who have the means to travel to continental Africa and live for a while among people who do not have the means to travel to the global north) to the representations—more or less stereotypical—of West Africa these students have, and which are serviced by the tourism project

3 Globalized Tourism Formations: Roots or Heritage Tourism

- Actors
 - Media and cinematic industries (global north)
 - Roots and the transatlantic slave trade sites of memory
 - Private sector stakeholders based in West Africa
 - Major global north corporations (airlines, hotels, travel agencies)

3 Globalized Tourism Formations: Roots or Heritage Tourism

- Any encounter between an African American and a West African in the field, anywhere in Senegal or The Gambia has been preceded by a discursive reality that constructs a specific representation or representations of U.S. born African Americans and of West Africans in particular ways. That discursive reality or system of representations has been manipulated by African states and their agencies

3 Globalized Tourism Formations: Sex Tourism

- “Sex tourism refers to trips organized from within the tourism sector, or from outside this sector but using its structures and networks, with the primary purpose of effecting a commercial sexual relationship by the tourist with residents at the destination.” World Tourism Organization Definition
- Romance Tourism
 - Sex tourism with locals with greater importance on the semblance or make-believe of relationships
 - growing phenomenon in Senegal and in The Gambia

3 Globalized Tourism Formations: Sex Tourism

- Actors
 - White women from northern Europe or from North America, who are in their fifties or beyond
 - Older white men
 - Local African men and women