

Luis Medrano
ENG1101
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Final Reflection & Portfolio

Final Reflection: This was a rollercoaster of a class with mostly highs. I could safely say English class has been always rough for me but this time around it was a lot of fun. I've learned since the beginning that there is always a process, when it comes to writing and reading. There are baby steps that any author should take in order to create a great piece as shown by my professor in "Read like a writer". It has helped my abilities to understand a text as to why certain choices were made. It also helps as an example when I want to use the style that the author used in my writing. All in all, it's all about patience. The ideas won't pop out in a hour and you just need to write and write until something pops up.

When I would write, I just had 1 idea that I came up with very quickly and tried to figure something out. Now I reflect on my ideas and do more than 1 draft in order to really give more polish to my final essay. I really like to bring these aspects to every part of my life, just be patient and keep redoing until something good comes out of it. Since even before, I took ENG 1101 and I failed it. I think what I did wrong was leave everything to the last minute and not give time to this class and review what I did. Which is something that I have done more and I started using more ideas from using more textual evidence in my writing. Like in my unit 2, it states "I agree with this text, this article explains many events having the same issue of mistreatment of workers as they are working in poor conditions and getting low wages. These issues are almost like shortcuts that businesses in qatar are doing because they have the money to help working conditions and pay sufficient wages, but prefer to follow other methods and misguide workers into working more for less money." "The *kafeel* acquires significant control over their employee's lives, which provides a platform via which human rights violations are committed." In this piece, I use textual evidence to support my claim and this is something that I wouldn't do so often as I would pass through it because of not doing enough drafts or would not see it as necessary.

It was also really cool to do unit 3. I did a TED talk and since I had a good idea of what it was about. I picked it and it was cool to talk as if I was in a TED talk. My topic was about businesses affecting migrant workers and this topic really came to me because I am a soccer fan, anticipated for the 2022 World Cup, but there some headlines that were talking about something else. Migrant workers were being treated terribly by qatar and it was the businessmen that were running the tournament that were creating injustice to migrant workers by lying to them about wages, horrible working conditions, confiscated passports so that they could not leave the country and thousands dead, returning to there poor families but in body bags. This topic was perfect and I used it as the foundation to bring other details like similar incidents in other countries.

Overall, this has been a great class. These lessons are not only great but very useful to use after it's over. Everything that I learned was very helpful and I will definitely use it in many aspects in my writing and daily life. We will see how I use these new skills to other classes even.

Unit 1: My Journey to go to College

My education has been a rollercoaster to say the least. My ideas have changed from time to time and I had moments where I was about to say no, but because of family and my ideals that didn't make me 100% commit to college, but to just get it over with.

I was a normal, shy child and starting school with taking ESL classes felt different since all I knew was Spanish from my family. At first, usually I would do well in class because as a kid, I had no responsibilities or anything that I enjoyed, well, except small toy cars. Education felt like a job that would give me an award for doing well. Also, what made my case better was being the only child of a big family, so everything was to me. I would usually get presents as my birthday and Christmas would not be that far off, it almost felt like 2 birthdays. I would get video games, more hot wheels and other stuff. I would believe that as a kid, if I did good in class, more presents. Now don't get jealous as this life would go down soon.

As a kid, I didn't know any better so little by little my grades started to slip slightly as video games become addictive as they always are. Then came my downfall when I hit 5, my first cousin Nathalie. She would take the spotlight as I was pushed aside but I wasn't jealous and it made sense, she was the new girl in town. Then, 2 years later, my 2nd cousin Jeremie came in and they would both be the new babies as I was stuck to just video games, school, and some chores. I would still receive presents, but not as much as I used to. When I thought, "at least they are my cousins, I still have the attention of my parents, right?". 2 years later, my half-brother Jonathan came in and hypnotized my family, even me. I would say he was the most adorable devil I have ever seen and he was my 1st and only brother. Now I am 10, living with my mom in a house of 2 floors, while my dad would live in the bottom. Only together for big occasions like

when I graduated elementary. They only stayed at a distance because of me. Also, being the oldest sibling in my family, I was being pushed by my family to push my education and passions because I had to set the bar for my siblings.

Entering middle school, I would have a big issue with electronics. I would do it non-stop, I could only remember 2 weeks fly by like 2 days and just be on my tablet. I would obviously get grounded by my dad and he would tell me something very important. That an electronic would get me nothing, a false reality that would take me to a dead end, and he told me to look for something productive, and during middle school I would meet my true passion. She is like that cute girl that is playing hard to get, she's round, very fun and you scream goal when you pass it between 2 pairs of shoes or cones. This passion would make me put a lot of time and effort to improve my craft and my education was tossed to the side. I would see education as meaningless and had this idea of not even going to college. I would also see that so many celebrities and athletes that I would see on my tablet would be so successful without finishing school and school felt boring, to try so hard for something that didn't really reward you for doing great while other students would basically fool around, do the bare minimum and still graduate.

During this time, my cousins and brother would attend school and I was on my way to high school where I would say was the split road. I was between 2 minds. The 1st was finishing school, going to college, getting a normal job and a normal life, everything normal. The 2nd Option was pursuing my passion and dreams, chasing things that I loved to do and making a job off of doing what I love. During my high school, I was taking it as a joke and wasn't thinking about college at all and one day, I was coming from training, tired and thinking of just leaving homework for later. I was just having a conversation with my aunt about the idea of not going to college and she would say, "Luis, you would be the first person in our family to go to

college. This not only does this affect you, but Nathalie, Jeremie, your brother, you may not see it but we use you as an example to push them to pursue their education like you. You could also chase your dreams as well, it will be difficult, but I know that just working for both things will inspire those who are on their way to do the same.” This would change me as many of my other family members would say the same and I would start to take school more seriously and do both soccer and school.

During COVID, it was actually really helpful as I had virtual classes and could practice more. The most important part though was the isolation making me think of what I was going to do and I decided to do all I set my mind to because why can I not do it, I always love a challenge. I'm a very selfless person, as before, I was not jealous of my cousins and brother, I would support them equally and would help them with anything, hw, taking care of them a few times, and picking them up from school. I have always tried to help my family and friends, so that I know that while I'm chasing my goals and dreams, that they will be inspired to complete theirs and seeing them enjoy their success is enough to help push forward. So, I was deciding on what to do in college and my mom just randomly said” you're good at math, you should be an architect”, and that was my plan B, if I was still undecided. I was interested in mechanical engineering but I wasn't really hooked to that idea and so I was left undecided, plan B it is.

Now in college, it was very different and demanding from the start. I had to learn architecture from scratch and I have improved along the way and continuing to my associates. Today I'm doing all of these things for my family and myself. I am still deciding on what's next in my life, and I should continue or stop after my associates or bachelors. Whatever I decide, I believe in my younger siblings and I have left a trail open to them to become whatever they want to be, while I work to be what I want to be.

Unit 2: How does powerful business affect migrant workers?

Intro-My question for today is how does powerful business affect migrant workers? I got interested with the question because in a few weeks it is the 2022 World Cup. I love soccer and a few months leading towards the event, I have witnessed in several YouTube videos and even the news that there has been some issues for the specific World Cup. This question is being used for the 2022 World Cup and such a beautiful tournament is being stained because of the treatment towards migrant workers making the stadiums, transportation, accommodation, etc, while they try to hide these acts. I want to uncover the injustice and terrible treatment given to migrant workers and show that they need assistance. This issue is not only present in this event, but an issue that has been going on for many years in different jobs, countries and events. I want to show you articles and a video about this issue, explaining what this piece of evidence is about, My thoughts and opinions of this piece and taking quotes that were interesting to me.

Citation #1 Mohammed Al Thani, et Al "Channeling Soft Power: The Qatar 2022 World Cup, Migrant Workers, and International Image". Tandfonline, Pages 1729-1752 | 23 Jan 2022.

[Full article: Channelling Soft Power: The Qatar 2022 World Cup, Migrant Workers, and International Image \(tandfonline.com\)](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10705511.2022.2081111)

Summary- The overarching aim of this study was to examine the role of sport and, in particular, the impact of Qatar's hosting of the FIFA World Cup in how Qatar has dealt with human rights scrutiny to protect its international image. The paper will investigate whether leveraging the rights and social legacy of migrant workers within Qatar during the 2022 World Cup has helped to achieve aspects of the state's soft power aspirations thus far. While increased attention from the World Cup has shed light on the plight and suffering of low-skilled workers in Qatar thereby tarnishing its image globally and undermining its soft power aspirations, the state, drawing from a sport for development paradigm, has been able to leverage sport as a vehicle for reshaping its conventional national branding that has existed for decades. I conclude this paper by arguing that while migrant workers' human rights in Qatar have been a source of scrutiny internationally, such discourses are being countered in part, but significantly, by the state which has employed mechanisms to showcase accountability and commitment towards international human rights standards and international development and thus restored its soft power abilities in the process. This paper makes an original contribution to the existing literature by documenting the checkered histories of labor relations in the context of mega-events but also in the context of global diplomacy, with particular reference to Qatar.

Reflection-I agree with this text, this article explains many events having the same issue of mistreatment of workers as they are working in poor conditions and getting low wages. These issues are almost like shortcuts that businesses in Qatar are doing because they have the money to help working conditions and pay sufficient wages, but prefer to follow other methods and misguide workers into working more for less money.”The *kafeel* acquires significant control over their employee’s lives, which provides a platform via which human rights violations are committed. From a legal standpoint, violations include the illegal purchase of visas (and the workers derived from them), seizure of passports, and prohibition of unionization. In addition, workers are subjected to long working hours in the scorching desert heat, poor availability of medical resources, and unhygienic living conditions. The Kafala system has been opposed by numerous international organizations to the extent that Nelson states that Kafala ‘violates every ethical convention’.”

MSE’s, to know more about this as it is referred to a lot in the text and more about the kafala system and why Qatar still uses this system that is a terrible system. Use other sources like videos and even fans that have voiced their opinion about this matter. There is plenty of evidence to indicate a mistreatment of migrant workers being treated like garbage. That powerful businesses have a very negative effect on migrant workers and have been for several years. The author's writing is a standard, normal essay. The author's intended audience could be people like me, trying to find evidence against these companies, but also normal soccer fans and they can see this as something hurting the beautiful game. He is talking about a lot of incidents that have been talked about in other sources and even the news.

Quotation-”Casting light on Qatar’s engagement on the international stage as a consequence of scrutinizing migrant workers working conditions and on attempts to mitigate exploitative practices, by evaluating the perspectives of key stakeholders, meant that it would be imperative to include individuals from the local organizing body of the event in the research sample of interviewees. A total of thirteen individuals were thus selected as interviewees for this study based on their accessibility and availability. Specifically, recruitment of key individuals to the research sample was achieved by leveraging the author’s contacts in Qatar, which included representatives from the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, and from the International Centre for Sport Security.”

“However, if the government can accelerate the enforcement of new measures unsparingly, it would benefit thousands of workers and prevent the further erosion of low-skilled workers’ rights.⁷⁸ Undeniably, international criticisms were paramount for the government to prioritize the welfare of migrant workers in Qatar. It can be argued that such criticism has led to human rights being taken more seriously, resulting in vastly improved standards compared to the status at the beginning of construction.”

Citation 2-[Towards a Decent Labour Market for Low Waged Migrant Workers on JSTOR](#)

Summary-This book is the final output of a research project –Protecting labor migrants in the Netherlands: past, present and in the future that allowed us to collaborate with the selected contributors to this volume. Together, we dive into the position of low-waged migrant workers from within the EU, possibly working under worse labor conditions than nationals, or under the level of their education attainments, as well as third-country nationals, especially those in low-paid jobs such as seasonal workers, asylum seekers or those without legal residence. These migrant workers contribute to the labor market, valued for their work but are vulnerable.

Reflection: I agree with this text because this is how migrant workers are treated. They are very vulnerable to not getting paid, horrible working conditions while they help a lot in terms of businesses taking corners to get what they want. "Decent work can turn into bad labor and bad labor can degenerate into labor exploitation. A situation of labor exploitation is not static, nor is bad labor and decent work. Migrant workers, especially those at the low end of the labor market, are more prone to end up in a situation of exploitation caused by a complex array of (interrelated) factors, such as labor market demands for flexibility and migration opportunities, which flourish in today's globalized world." This is taking place in Europe, as far as Netherlands, are there any cases in other parts of the world? More about European countries using migrant workers and giving them the right environment. Maybe other sport events that needed migrant workers. I would tell him that you have given me a new perspective as this is more of a worldwide issue as there are cases in just Europe and Asia. That's more evidence that businesses have another negative effect on migrant workers, and a different continent. I believe it's to also expose Europe for also terribly treating migrant workers. I believe this document is credible because the author also uses other evidence from other sources to prove a point in his document.

Quotation-"A key pull factor for illegal immigration into the EU is the possibility of obtaining work in the EU without the required legal status. Action against illegal immigration and illegal stay should therefore include measures to counter that pull factor."² This is the opening statement of the EU Employer Sanctions Directive: a clear attack on illegal employment with the aim to control migration. This chapter focuses on these employer sanctions and examines the functioning of sanctions as a policy tool for migration control."

Citation 3-[\(5\) Working Conditions in Qatar Ahead of the FIFA World Cup 2022 - YouTube](#)

Summary-This video is another video about the current status of the human rights issues in the 2022 World Cup. There have also been other issues like Qatar being against the LGBTQ+ community which is also creating headlines as well. People from Qatar explain that this is not what they expected in terms of controversy. They believed that the 1st ever World Cup to take place in the Middle East would change the stereotypes of the Middle East people and give them such a responsibility and privilege to host a major tournament in their land and colors. However,

these issues have given the people shame of the what these businesses and country due to the migrant workers.

Reflection-I agree with this video as it explains everything wrong about this situation and being covered up on the fact that the world cup will take the center stage. In the video, a reporter states that what the world cup meant for their country was to take the responsibility to host the world cup in their culture and colors, erasing any racism and stereotypes against them but instead, it has shown the cracks in their society as migrant workers are being treated harshly and their country being harsh against LGBTQ+ people. Showing a dark side that hasn't got attention until the world cup was hosted there. I have a few questions as to how this has affected the fans and even soccer in general, teams, fifa representatives, etc. I would want another video telling us about how this has affected other fans and the importance to it. I would tell the producer of the video that this video has helped with my research question about businesses affecting migrant workers as the business is the country that is constructing the world cup in their home ground.

Quotation-“These elements of this kafala system create this power imbalance between workers and employers and are usually used by unscrupulous employers to abuse and exploit migrant workers... the systems in place in the country allows for these abuses to happen and facilitate these abuses.”

Therefore, All this evidence supports my claim that businesses are affecting migrant workers. This effect however is very negative. This mistreatment of workers is not only happening recently or in special events, it's been happening for years and in every part of the world. These businesses use these migrant workers to help construct their things, but fail to help the workers with their necessities of wages, safety and rights. This is an issue that I believe needs more attention since it's very covered up by these businesses and special events.

Unit 3: [Luis Medrano, Unit 3 Final Part 1 & 2 – ENG1101 English Composition 1, FA2022 D308 \(cuny.edu\)](#)