

Review of: "Theorizing the Normalization of Plantation Agriculture in Colombia"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I was honored to review this manuscript.

Upon reading the manuscript, questions and issues arose that the author could address in order to improve the quality of his/her manuscript.

What made it possible for families with higher economic status to settle in Salamina?

Do the settlement of families with economic status occur conflicts in Salamina? How do they negotiate access to land? Is there any land access in Salamina? How do the new settlers cope with these land access norms? What is the nature of social interactions in which families with higher economic status and indigenous communities are involved?

There is a need to present the social, economic and political setting of Salamina; its potentials and opportunities.

Why did you select Salamina as a case study?

In addition to literature review, observations, in-depth semi-structured interviews, were other methods used to collect data? If so, please specify these methods and the nature of the data produced.

To the author's credit, he/she does use qualitative research data in his/her manuscript, but these data need to be represented in such a way that they contribute to the settling of normalization theory. Another concern is that the procedure for using qualitative data with normalization laws is not clearly established. Case studies are not used in the setting of the proposed model, whereas they should form a whole with all the data called upon in the validation of what the author proposes as a theory of the normalization of social structures on coffee and plantain plantations in Salamina. At this level, an effort must be made by the author to make the whole coherent and digestible. Better still, the author could bring quantitative research data into the analysis. Or, if secondary data have been used in the analysis, this should be clearly stated in the methodology.

The theory of human agency is not clearly explained in the analyses, even though it is a central element in the author's demonstration of normalization theory.

Finally, the morphological and normalization approaches presented at the beginning of the text should serve as a basis for discussing and analyzing the results of the six case studies. I invite the author to make good use of the theoretical frameworks invoked in the analyses of his/her empirical material.

I hope that these reflections and comments will help the author to better rework his/her manuscript. I look forward to reading the revised manuscript.