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TITLE: Glocalization or Assimilation: Krump Dancing in a Comparative Context

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In thinking about neoliberalism and ethnic and racialized youth, it is useful to think in types of capital. Neoliberalism offers an expansion of social capital, as youth transition their way into society as adults. Using social media, youth are able to experience an unprecedented exchange of ideas and culture across the globe. Embedded in many of these ideas is the priority of the individual. Believing in the impossible and removing the boundaries of geography, nationality, and community, marginalized youth find their voice through a new medium of artistic expression. Conversely, neoliberal policies have negatively impacted the economic and cultural capital for ethnic and racialized youth, as traditional sources of wealth, and status making activities are devalued and become obsolete.

This paper examines how Maori, Filipino, and Pacific Islander Australian youth make sense of their place in Australian society using an American art form called krump dancing to improve their lives. It is through this expressive art form that we can understand how ethnic and racialized youth mediate the anomie and conflict in their lives.