

Poulantzas' emphasis on the structural determination of class location in terms of political and ideological relations which only exist insofar as they are materialized in such apparatuses, is thus most appropriate for this context and indispensable for the class analysis undertaken. This is only one of two reasons underlying our choice of Poulantzas' criteria of the determination of proletarian class location to be employed in this study.

The second reason derives, not from the specificity of the concrete contextual conditions, as in the case in the former reason. It rather derives from the nature of our research question. Given that a main objective of this study is to examine the extent to which Palestinian workers penetrating the Israeli labor market improve the objective conditions in terms of entering proletarian locations and representing an increase in shared proletarian class locations, then it is our research strategy to use the criteria likely to give the most conservative estimates. The validity of our conclusions is greater in the case of underestimation than overestimation of the actual size of shared locations.

Poulantzas' criteria, defining the boundaries of the working class even exclusively in terms of place in the production process, is the most narrow and it is seriously criticized by Marxists, for it substantially reduces the size of the working class.³⁴ If by this criteria our findings indicate a tendency towards the improvement of the objective conditions for potential proletarian alliances, then findings by any other criteria are likely only to reinforce the validity of this conclusion.

In the case that findings by this criteria prove to the contrary, that Palestinian labor penetrating the Israeli labor market does not repre-