

Abstracts

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Strategies of dealing with social marginality. An empirical classification of European control regimes

In recent literature state action strategies and collective sensibilities condense to complex regimes of dealing with deviance and marginality. Thereby, national practices of handling social difference combine with public sentiments and mentalities to form coherent cultures of social control. In this article we investigate whether homogeneous cultures of control can be observed in a sample of European countries. Cluster analysis identifies three distinct regimes of governing social marginality: (1) an inclusive regime wherein generous welfare provision and little incarceration merge with low levels of fear of crime and public punitiveness, against the backdrop of considerable trust in public institutions; (2) an exclusionary regime of modest welfare benefits and high imprisonment rates, wherein fear of crime, punitive attitudes and low confidence in governmental institutions are widespread; and (3) a hybrid regime in which inclusive and exclusionary elements form a fragile alliance. The inclusive regime can be found mainly in Scandinavia, the exclusionary regime is implemented particularly in Eastern Europe.

Bernd Kramer and Michael Wagner

The Influence of Cultural Capital on Friendship Among Students

This paper analyses the influence of cultural capital on friendship among students. Many studies have already shown a positive relationship between cultural capital and educational success. However, little attention has been given to what extent cultural capital matters for friendship formation among students in the same school class. Following Bourdieu, this paper assumes cultural capital as a bundle of codes of behavior and attitudes that lead to socially homogeneous forms of friendship. We test our hypotheses using network data from about 200 students from nine classes of secondary schools in Germany. As a result students are more likely to be friends with each other, the more similar their social origin is and the more similar their parents' homes are equipped with cultural capital.

Mark Lutter

Daydreams and consumption. The imaginative qualities of goods and the demand for lottery tickets

What factors determine demand for consumer goods? Using the demand for lottery tickets as an example, the article discusses the imaginative quality of goods. According to Campbell (1987), consumption is explained from the consumer's attempt to realize fantasies stemming from socially constructed daydreams. On the basis of survey data, the study shows that lottery players who have daydreams and fantasies on winning large amounts of money spend more money for tickets and play more regularly. From this perspective, demand for lotteries is explained by its potential to create and maintain dream worlds which players find enjoyable to indulge in. With the ticket, lottery players buy an imagined dream on what to do with large

amounts of money and on how this would transform their lives. Concluding the article possible applications of study beyond issues of consumption.

Ingo Bode and Markus Märker

Competition with reservations. Complexity and ambivalence in the new market culture of the German hospital sector

While market-based governance has become widespread in the welfare state and in health care systems, the coping process of those affected by it has remained under-researched. Drawing on accounts from economic sociology and structuration theory, this paper takes the example of the German hospital sector. It explores the cognitive processing of competition with collective actors representing major stakeholders of the sector and inhabiting the intermediary sphere concerned with operational governance. Based on interview and documentary data of funders, owners, regulators and various occupational groups, the paper shows that the different groups have different understandings of what competition in the hospital sector actually is and what it should be. Due to different perceptions of group interests but also to varying regulatory concepts there is considerable ambivalence concerning the issue. A common sense concept is quality competition. While such a consensus proves inconsistent after all, it does help stabilizing the market idea.