

Abstracts

Burkhard Liebsch

From the fear to be ‘other’ to normalized difference? *Disability and diversity studies (DDS)* in the context of a culture of sensibility for differences

This paper analyses the notion of difference (viz. otherness) which is held to be ‚normal‘ and thought to deserve general respect. This claim is put into question with regard to manifold empirical works in *disability studies* which draw attention to the context of a culture of sensibility for differences which resist a general normalization of otherness.

Friedericke Bahl and Philipp Staab

The Proletarianization of Service Work. Institutional Selectivity, Labor Process and the Perception of Future in the Labor Market Segment of Routine Service Work

For the past years the German labor market has become more differentiated and diverse. Yet the existing flexibility and dynamic does not indicate pluralization alone. An explorative qualitative study on routine services, carried out between 2009 and 2012, provides insights about the consolidation of a certain social status. Our findings are pointing to a process of “proletarianization”. Integration in different labor market institutions is selective and leads to a stabilization of disadvantaged perspectives and an unprivileged status for routine service workers. Work is marked by strategies of social rationalization, which enforce an ongoing dynamic of disqualification and devaluation. A specific control system produces a process of segmentation that undermines positional advantages. The loss of future perspectives risks the consolidation of disadvantaged perspectives because the idea of possible change is not available.

Andreas Fischer and Lutz Eichler

Distinctive self-realization

The paper aims at reflecting on subject-related work orientation from both a theoretical andempirical perspective. In the German sociology of work and organization the thesis of a normative subjectification is primarily understood as the subjective half of a transformation process. The claim on self-realization in work is assumed to provide emancipatory aspects, because it would aim for more autonomy in the contextual constraint of a labour-oriented society. Our analysis questions this assumption. We will confront theoretical approaches to youth and socialization underlying the thesis of normative subjectification with the socio-structural thesis on the distinctive character of self-realization. Employing a multivariate and representative data analysis of the ALLBUS 1991 and 2010, we will show that normative subjectification neither is a youth phenomenon nor is it independent of social origin. Self-related work orientation occurs less among ambitious youths than with established elderly.

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Our reading of the concept of habitus suggests that our findings can be decoded as a distinctive semantic that legitimates social inequality and its reproduction.

Pia Sauermaun and Aline Hämmerling

Migration-Specific Educational Inequalities in Primary School – The Impact of Cultural Resources within the Families

In the German educational system school achievement in primary school is crucial for long-term educational success due to the early transition to secondary education. Various studies have shown that school achievement differs between children with and without migration background. We focus on migration-specific inequalities of fourth graders in terms of their school achievement. According to Bourdieu's theory of cultural capital, social inequalities are reproduced, since on the one hand only higher social classes possess cultural capital and on the other hand cultural capital is a prerequisite to succeed in the educational system. This paper discusses if the concept of cultural capital can be used to shed light on migration-specific inequalities. Analyses based on the the project *Immigrants' Children in the German and Israeli Educational System* (N = 631) show that grades in German classes and independently measured reading performance are positively correlated with familial resources regarding cultural capital. Furthermore, under controlling for cultural resources no migration-specific inequalities are observable.

Katharina Rathmann

Macro-structural determinants of health inequalities in adolescence: What role does the pre-school sector play?

This study investigates whether and how characteristics of the pre-school educational sector are associated with differences in health and socio-economic inequalities among adolescents in European and North American countries. Data were collected from the school based "Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC)"-study in 2005/2006, which includes 11- to 15-year old adolescents from 34 European and North American countries (n=159.824). Hierarchical regression models were conducted for multiple psychological health complaints, including individual determinants (family affluence, age and gender) and macro-level determinants from the educational pre-school system (participation rate in public and private pre-school institutions), controlling for national wealth. Socioeconomic inequalities in psychological health complaints were found in the majority of European and North American countries. Adolescents, living in countries with high participation rates in private pre-schools showed lower likelihoods of reporting psychological health complaints and smaller socioeconomic inequalities in health complaints in comparison to countries with low participation rates. In contrast, the participation rate in public pre-school sector was not significantly associated with health complaints and inequalities in health complaints. Reducing health inequalities should continue to be an important public health strategy with emphasis on the young population in all countries. Macro-level characteristics, such as in particular characteristics of the pre-school sector, are – besides individual characteristics – considered as relevant factors in tackling socioeconomic inequalities in health among young people.