

Abstracts

Cockburn, Tom: Children and the feminist ethic of care

This article looks at the recent contributions made by feminists who advocate a distinctive 'ethic of care' to replace the conventional 'ethic of rights'. The article explores ways in which the ethic of care could be utilized and applied to the children's rights context. After looking at the important feminist criticisms of conventional rights-based approaches, it is argued that there needs to be some caution applied to the feminist ethic of care, if it is to be successfully applied to the context of children. These cautions are that it is important to recognize the contested nature of care and not to valorize the perspectives of carers over those being cared for. Second, the feminist ethic of care might lead to a 'needs-based' discourse, an approach that is unsatisfactory in its implications for children's rights. Finally, conceptions of justice and equality must not be dropped from political arguments. Rather, their limitations must be acknowledged and then used strategically and partially. However, despite these cautions, the feminist ethic of care remains a constructive approach to the children's rights context as it emphasizes responsibilities and relationships, the concrete contexts of caring interdependencies, and allows children to be active social players with a voice rather than passive recipients of care and rights. It is hoped that this article might serve as both a corrective and conceptual enrichment of the feminist ethic of care.

Szekeres, Valéria: Gender-sensitive budget

Neoclassical approach to economics has failed to recognize the importance in producing the human capital, of work of households which is predominantly performed by women. Neglecting such issues may lead to a lower growth rate, and at the same time aspects of human equity are seriously disregarded. To eliminate this deficiency, there is a strong tendency in the world to involve gender sensitiveness into the process of budget-making and to make it more participatory. We present a wide range of tools, extending from the gendered analysis of the impacts on beneficiaries of budget, to examining the gender-disaggregated impacts of expenditure or tax incidence.

Andl, Helga – Kóródi, Miklós – Szűcs Norbert – Vég, Zoltán Ákos: Registration, school districts, affirmative action. Ensuring the integrated education of multiply disadvantaged students by the regulation of school enrolment

The paper presents the results of the impact study conducted in 27 Hungarian settlements with several schools and capital districts in the spring of 2008, which reveals how the regulations regarding school districts implemented for the desegregation of settlements with more than one schools worked in practice. The research reveals that the indicator local governments must use according to the law while determining school districts cannot be set in an exact way. The declarations of the parents required for the establishment of multiply disadvantaged status are voluntary, thus the determination of the multiply disadvantaged status can be easily manipulated and it is almost uncontrollable. In light of the research results it is obvious that the modification of enrolment districts alone is unable to solve the problem of segregation. The intention expressed by the law can only be realized in everyday practice in an adequate scale if the local government conducts a committed desegregating education policy and if it

is able to form efficient cooperation with non-governmental school maintainers, civil society organisations and parent groups.

Sousa, Liliana and Eusebio, Carla: When multi-problem poor individuals' myths meet social services myths

This article addresses the myths that multi-problem poor clients and professionals hold about each other, since process variables play a decisive role in the success of the intervention. The principal myths which have emerged from this study indicate that the effectiveness of the intervention is perceived by clients and professionals to depend on the actions of the professional; and the ineffectiveness of the intervention is perceived by clients to depend on the actions of the professional and by the professionals to depend on the capacity of the families to follow their instructions. The emerging myths allow us to understand that the process of intervention can be affected by *disculpability* and *adequate impotence*, since each sub-system tends to blame the other when interventions run a negative course.

Rácz, Andrea – Hodosán, Róza – Korintus, Mihályné: Literature on access to further and higher education among young people with public care background

The article gives an overview of policy papers, statistics and research on access to further and higher education among young people from public care background in Hungary. It also briefly describes relevant Danish, English, Spanish and Swedish policies and international research. It is quite well known, that young people with public care background are at higher risk of not achieving higher educational levels beyond the compulsory schooling age. Research results confirm this view and reveal that little attention is paid to continued education within the child protection system.