

Abstracts

Herbert J. Gans: Concentrated Poverty: A Critical Analysis

To many observers, it may be almost reflexive to believe that neighborhoods with high levels of poverty naturally breed more poverty. To Herbert Gans, long a poverty specialist, this is a dangerous myth. Moreover, he says, it is one the Obama administration apparently accepts. The result leads to policies to break up neighborhoods rather than getting to the root causes of extreme poverty—not the least of which is the unavailability of jobs.

Giuliano Bonoli: The political economy of active labour market policy

Active labour market policies have developed significantly over the last two decades across OECD countries, with substantial cross-national differences in terms of both extent and overall orientation. The objective of this paper is to account for cross-national variation in this policy field. It starts by reviewing existing scholarship concerning political, institutional and ideational determinants of ALMPs. It then argues that ALMPs is too broad a category to be used analytically, and develops a typology of four different types of ALMPs: incentive reinforcement, employment assistance, occupation, and human capital investment. These are discussed and examined through ALMP expenditure profiles in selected countries. The paper uses this typology to analyse active labour market policy trajectories in six western European countries, and shows that the role of this instrument changes dramatically over time. It concludes that there is little regularity in the political determinants of ALMPs. In contrast, it finds important institutional and ideational effects, the latter in the most recent phase in particular.

Luca Koltai – Márton Kulinyi: The attitudes of professionals working with public work schemes

There has been an ongoing transformation of the system of public work in Hungary since 2011. Due to the fact that national and local funds spent on this measure reached HUF 200 billion and it affects more than 300 000 families in the country, public work has become a subject of public debates. The study presents the organizational research aiming at drawing a picture of the attitudes of professionals working with public work schemes. We would like to present what they think of public work, what the main goals and impacts are, if there are monitoring measures, what they think of the long term effects of public work to employability, what kind of jobs are available. We also examined the capacity of public work organizers and their development needs.

Zsolt Bugarszki: Recovery model in mental health

Recovery model as a new conceptual framework became one of the leading concept in many countries' mental health system during the last two decades. Current article provides a summary about the different interpretations of the model and argues about the difficulties of its introduction in Hungary.