

ABSTRACTS

Júlia Varga: International experiences of area-based priority education policies

The article gives a detailed overview of area-based priority education policies in Europe and summarizes the results of the evaluation studies of these policies. Area based priority education policies try to reduce educational inequalities in areas where economic and social difficulties are concentrated, alongside the poorest populations which are frequently also populations from ethnic or linguistic minority backgrounds. These policies designate so called ‘education priority zones’ and channel additional resources to schools in priority zones. The overview summarizes the management of the different programs and the results of the evaluations concerning the impact of these policies on students’ achievement and on the changes of school enrolments, composition of students and teachers. Finally the article sums up if priority education zones had been successful in meeting their core aims and objectives.

József Balázs Fejes: Tanoda programs – what are they good for?

After the millenium several so called “tanoda” programs (afterschool programs) have been launched in Hungary to help disadvantaged and Roma students succeed in school. The tanoda system is mainly funded by tenders and more and more funds are available, consequently the number of tanoda programs is increasing. However, fundamental issues of these programs are yet to be discussed within the field of educational research. The study addresses some of these key features in detail, including the aims of the programs, the indicators of success and it describes the realization of a possible impact assessment.

Edina Héderné Berta – Anikó Vida: ‘We are surrounded by them’. Social and ethnic boundaries in a rural micro-region

The aim of this article is to present the adverse effects of economic and political crisis on the local social relations between Roma and Hungarian groups in a disadvantaged micro-region. The scene of our research is a former agricultural centre in Southern Hungary. The settlement, which has ever seen better days, now has to face numerous social conflicts as consequences of recession. Our study attempts to explore those social mechanisms which create altered social narratives on poverty and ethnicity.

Herbert J. Gans: Basic Income: A Remedy for a Sick Labor Market?

Given the low job creation of recent years, the persistence of poverty, and stagnating wages for so many it is time to think of cash grants to Americans, according to the author. He offers us a historical review of past proposals and some practical new ideas of his own.

**Tamás Zombai: Dilemmas, possibilities. Social work
in transitional homes of families**

Working in the transitional homes of families is one of the greatest challenges for social workers. The task requires absolute preparedness and effort since the problems that they have to deal with are very complex, not to mention each care has to be treated separately even when working in groups. However, there is no guarantee for success. In the paper I present this very interesting profession's pros and cons from the view of the social worker, with particular emphasis on the boundaries of competence and questions of autonomy.