

# ABSTRACTS

## **Judit Bíró: The Sociology of Deviance: Violation of Academic Norms?**

Social pathology, furthermore the sociology of deviance, is a characteristically distinguished sub-area of sociology. Its similar problem sensitivity to criminology, its ranking among applied social sciences, and both direct and/or positioning in its political value transfer had proved this area with theoretic and methodologic characteristics. On the other hand, this very attribute have occasionally and strongly irritated representatives of the other social sciences fields. In my study, I would like to showcase that surprising and unusual social science tradition wheres *sociologists* attack “the pathologists”, many times in a vicious way, including personal attacks, by claiming intellectually absurd accusations against their research topics or work.

## **Monika Riedel, Markus Kraus: Differences and similarities in monetary benefits for informal care in old and new EU member states**

This article presents an overview of the monetary benefits available in the context of long-term care provided by family or other informal carers in 11 old and 10 new EU member states. All but one country in our sample offer at least some monetary benefits that can be used to help finance informal care. Old EU member states tend to direct benefits to individuals in need of care, whereas new EU member states place more emphasis on benefits for carers. Among new EU member states, monetary benefits are less often means-tested and tend to be lower compared with benefits in old EU member states. Because social policies in many countries increasingly rely on monetary benefits rather than on benefits in kind and because the share of informal care in the overall provision of elderly care will scarcely decline, monetary benefit incentives for labour market participation need to be carefully monitored.

## **Silja Häusermann, Bruno Palier: The politics of employment-friendly welfare reforms in post-industrial economies**

The transition to post-industrialism has generated a range of new tensions between welfare arrangements and labour market performance, which confront today's welfare states with new challenges for employment-friendly recalibration, such as flexicurity, activation and work-care conciliation. Hence, the question of whether, how and to what extent current welfare states are able to adapt to the conditions and needs of post-industrial labour markets has become a major issue in recent welfare state research. This article identifies and discusses key debates in this literature on the politics of employmentfriendly reforms. It first focuses

on the general capacity for reform in mature welfare states and then discusses regime-specific reform politics, since postindustrialism confronts different welfare regimes with very different challenges. For each regime, the article proposes a range of research frontiers and open debates which we consider particularly relevant and fruitful avenues for future theorizing and research.

**Andrea Petróczi, Lívia Varga: Implementation and mechanism of the Special public work pilot program in the Hungarian social policy toolkit**

The pursuit of full employment and the quality improvement of employment conditions are essential basis of socio-economic development and social security. Its success depends on the degree of the working age population's activation. The public work programs have a dominant role in national activation policy. The examined special pilot program has a complex viewpoint to improve disadvantaged employees in terms of mental, social, health issues, but it doesn't secede from the overall unsuccessful framework. Through interviews and document analysis we concluded that the twice implemented special program is forward-looking in approach, but its construction and execution makes the Hungarian activation policy more controversial and highlights several system malfunction in forthcoming social services.