Theorizing construction of *Employability* and process of *Social* disqualification towards children and parents in poverty situation. An exploration of the work of Robert Castel and Serge Paugam

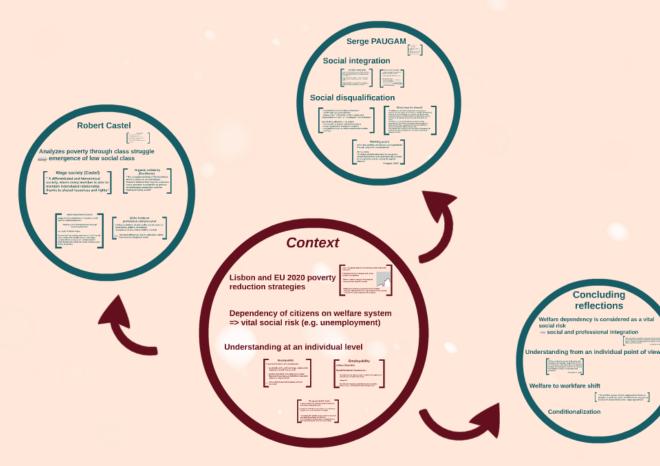
Presented by Nicolas Jacquet TISSA 2017 Olzstyn











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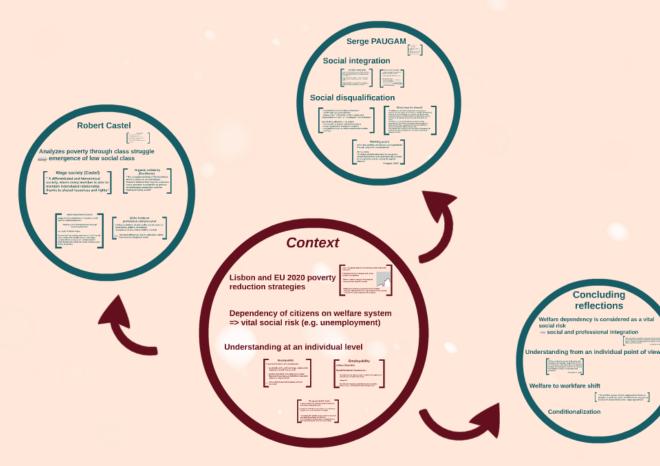
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JACQUET Nicolas
PhD Student
Assistant professor
Faculty of Social Sciences
University of Liège
Belgium



Qualitative research (INCh 2014) in the fields of :

- child poverty policies
- social policies
- inter-organizational networks
- social work

Lectures:

- welfare state evolution in Europe and Belgium
- social work and its evolution

Context

Lisbon and EU 2020 poverty reduction strategies

2010 : European year for combating poverty and social exclusion

Proclaim a focus on human and social capital development

Efforts made to combat child poverty must generate tangible results

Reflected in National Social Inclusion Policies

- Belgian National Child Poverty Reduction Plan (2013)

- Walloon Poverty Reduction Plan (2014)

Dependency of citizens on welfare system => vital social risk (e.g. unemployment)

Understanding at an individual level





The goods and the bads
A binary distinction between goodslearning vs.
badkundeserving (Villadoun)
— therefore individuals are subject to surveillance,
(re)education and activation strategies

"To change the morally impaired poor's perceived
passivity, dependency and laziness
to self-reliance, independence, competitiveness,
and industriousness" (Krumer-Nevo, 2016)

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Employability

Expected behaviour and competencies

- marketable skills and knowledge, employablity, resilience and self-improvement
- prevent poverty by reinserting into society those who have been excluded from education system or labour market
- does welfare-to-work programs prevent poverty?

Employability

Active citizenship

Social inclusion focuses on...

 Championing the rights of poor, marginalized, oppressed and socially excluded individuals

along with

 Neo-liberal stringency, austerity mesures to reduce welfare costs, and welfare-to-work programmes

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Probert Costel

Problem Sociologic Proposition Sociologic Proposition

Analyzes poverty through class struggle emergence of low social class

Wage society (Castel)

" A differentiated and hierarchical society, where every member is able to maintain interrelated relationship thanks to shared resources and rights"

Organic solidarity (Durkheim)

"The complementarity of the functions, which confers to all individuals, however diverse they may be, a precise social position susceptible to provide an elementary protection and the feeling of being useful"

Underemployment (Castel)

Suggests that professional integration could lead to underemployment:

"Getting out of unemployment through underemployment"

e.g. legal minimum wage

New social insecurities generate a "new" social class, below the middle class or the wage society which consists of unemployed or underemployed individuals, thus creating new forms of poverty

Links between proletarian and precariat

Living conditions of blue-collar social class, or proletarian, (1900's, Proudhon) and precariat are similar (2000's, Castel)

The main difference lies in collective claims that seem to disappear today

- French sociologist (1933 2013)
- Studied philosophy in the late 1950s
- Began working in the field of sociology with Pierre Bourdieu in the late 1960s
- Critical sociology of psychology and psychiatry
- "Disaffiliation"

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Serge PAUGAM

Social integration

Greeks concepts

Homo faber: take initiatives, use self skills, being able to be part of society and have an activity that contributes to society, has the rights to express himself, find his job lateraction.

omo oeconomicus: quality of incomes, takes pride in ing part of the company, agrees to work overtime if

- a double prerequisite: material and symbolic appreciation of work

social protection that rely on work

3 types of abnormalities:
- unreliable integration = satisfaction at
work and job volatility
- laborious integration = dissatisfaction at
work and job stahili
- disqualifying integration = dissatisfaction

Social disqualification

- economical and social precariousness
- well known by social workers
- aware of the "inferiority" of their status and stigmatized as "poor" or "inadequate" to civilization.

Social disqualification = an ordeal

- low income or lack of material resources
- moral degradation in human existence
- obligation to rely on relatives and social welfare

Every man for himself

"Traditional social relationships that set employers against workers appear to maintain in traditional industrial sectors, as steel-industry for example, but the general evolution towards individualization of objectives and the weakening of collectives claims tends to become the

Therefore, in case of difficulties to adapt to work environment, the risk for the worker to personally feel discredited is high, especially when the possibility to collectively defend rights remains low.

The process then leads to a sort of fight of all against all. Such as an open competition, it promotes some and suppress others.

Working poors

In the 80s and 90s, exclusion is conceptualized through long term unemployment

21st century:

"A simple and alarming fact, the access to labour market does not systematically prevent from material poverty nor psychological distress"

Paugam, 2002

Serge Paugam I.D.

- French sociologist (1960-)
- PhD in Sociology 1988

Thesis under the direction of Dominique Schnapper. Subject: *La disqualification sociale* (social disqualification)

Research topics:

- Sociology of Inequalities and Social Disruptions
- Social Forms of Poverty
- Process of Social Disqualification
- Employment Precarity and Unemployment in Europe
- Welfare Regimes in a comparative perspective

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Homo oeconomicus: quality of incomes, takes pride in being part of the company, agrees to work overtime if need be

Homo sociologicus: social life at work, recognition, healthy professional relationships, in time of pressure maintains a sound relationship with hierarchy

Ideal social integration

- a double prerequisite: material and symbolic appreciation of work
 - social protection that rely on work

3 types of abnormalities:

- unreliable integration = satisfaction at work and job volatility
- laborious integration = dissatisfaction at work and job stability
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Concluding reflections

Welfare dependency is considered as a vital social risk

social and professional integration

"Social investment paradigm has found practical expression in preventive interventions, conceptualizing the problem of poverty in terms or (re-)education and activation of both children and their parents"

chiettecat, 2014

Understanding from an individual point of view

Welfare recipients are put to the test, and nowadays increasingly required to do this by themselves. Moreover, they are asked to produce individualized answers for, and by themselves in order to overcome their problems.

Vrancken D., 2011

Welfare to workfare shift

"The welfare system, that is supposed to enhance people's proactivity, tends to withdraw its support as soon as their autonomy is no longer guaranted"

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