

Workshop

Social Milieus and Diversity

16 March 2010

10:30 – 13:30

Library Hall

10:30-11:10

*Social Milieu Concepts and Their
Operationalisation*
(Michael Vester)

11:10-11:25

Social Milieus in Migration Research
(Darius Zifonun)

11:25-11:45

Coffee Break

11:45-13:30

Discussion

By focusing on social milieus, the workshop will discuss a central concept of the sociology of inequality. Social milieus describe large social groups with characteristic attitudes, value orientations, life goals and lifestyles. Theoretical concepts are based on the works of Emile Durkheim and Pierre Bourdieu. The empirical analysis of milieu research is based on objective characteristics (social class) and on subjective characteristics that constitute the socio-cultural identity of a person (value orientations, life goals, recreational activities, different aspects of lifestyles, everyday aesthetic tendencies, etc). An empirical model specially for migrants was first created in 2007 (Sinus-Migrant-Milieus).

The goal of the workshop is to introduce theoretical concepts and operationalizations of social milieus and to discuss what the term "milieus" has to offer the concept of diversity. The workshop will include lectures by Prof. Em. Dr. Michael Vester (Universität Hannover) about concepts of social milieus and Dr. Darius Zifonun (Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut Essen) about the usefulness of this concept in migration research.



Max Planck Institute for the Study of
Religious and Ethnic Diversity
Hermann-Föge-Weg 12
37073 Göttingen
www.mmg.mpg.de

Contact:

Dr. habil. Karen Schönwälder
Fon: +49 (551) 4956 - 129

Dr. Sören Petermann
Fon: +49 (551) 4956 - 116
Fax: +49 (551) 4956 - 170