

ENGLISH SUMMARIES

JANUS

Journal of the Finnish Society for Social Policy
 Journal of the Finnish Association for Social Work Research
 Vol. 31, no 1, 2023
 ISSN 1235-7812

Editor-in-chief: Kirsi Günther & Milla Salin
 The journal is published in one volume of four issues per year.
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MERJA ANIS & MAILI MALIN:

IMMIGRANT CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE. EXAMINING THE NUMBER, GROUNDS AND FORMS OF OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS IN 1991– 2015

This article focuses on the number, grounds and forms of immigrant children among entries in out-of-home care in Finland in 1991–2015 in comparison to the Finnish born children and youth by using the register data. The compared groups are children with a refugee background, other immigrant background and Finnish background. Children with an immigrant background were divided into foreign-born and Finnish-born generation. We used descriptive cross-tabulation and group means as methods. Children and youth with a foreign background have had more out-of-home placements in comparison to the children with a Finnish background. Emergency out-of-home placements and residential care were overrepresented in all foreign-

background groups in comparison to the Finnish-background group. Child protection measures vary according to the ethnic and immigrant background of the child. The results indicate that the early support and the non-institutional child welfare services do not sufficiently meet the needs of the families with an immigrant background.

SANNA BLOMGREN:

SUPPORTING THE AGENCY OF PEOPLE IN A WEAK LABOUR MARKET POSITION WITH PUBLIC SERVICES AND BENEFITS

People in a weak labour market position need to move between various services and benefits on a regular basis. In this article I study, which elements in the social, health, rehabilitation and employment services and benefits strengthen, and which elements undermine one's agency during these transitions. Data consists of focus group interviews which were conducted in 2019 in Finland. Altogether 37 persons

participated in the interviews. The data was analysed by directed qualitative content analysis. The elements that strengthened or undermined one's agency were clustered around three entities: service structure, professional practices, and benefit system. Our society could improve the way public services and benefits are able to support agency by making practices more needs-based, predictable, and transparent as well as transforming the system of benefits and services into more comprehensible entity.

Laura Nikka ja Kirsi Günther:

**CONSTRUCTING INCLUSION AND COPING
IN THE BIOGRAPHIES OF THE LONG-
TERM UNEMPLOYED**

The study examines the experiences of coping and inclusion of the long-term unemployed at the margins of society. Long-term unemployment often increases the experience of loneliness and social exclusion and causes poverty and even premature mortality. Our research question is, how are coping and inclusion constructed in the life stories of the long-term unemployed? The material consists of interviews with five long-term unemployed, which we analyze with a narrative research approach. According to the results of the research, the model stories adopted during one's life reflected the person's internal needs, which the services were able to meet. Most of the interviewees formed a coping story, where the needs and resources of the interviewees met, bringing the inner story

and living closer together. Coping intensified as inclusion expanded to different areas of life. In the stories, inclusion was structured spatially, which was influenced by time and movement. Coping was the lowest in stories with more mental health symptoms, but experiences of inclusion were also constructed. With the help of counter-speech, the long-term unemployed tried to question the definitions and stigma against them.

Eveliina Heino:

**INTERSECTIONALITY IN SOCIAL WORK –
A SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW**

This article discusses intersectionality in social work through a systematic literature review. The dataset includes 44 international peer-reviewed articles. This review focuses on the perspectives from which the relationship between intersectionality and social work has been approached and the ways in which intersectionality is described as a relevant approach to social work. The findings suggest that previous studies have examined the topic through the lens of contemporary analyses, clients' life situations, social work practice, the social worker's own position, and social work education. The findings show that intersectionality is a useful concept from a social work perspective, as it allows us to highlight the constructionist and historical nature of social categories, examine inequalities and privileges through multiple social categories and their interactions, attach individual experiences to social structures, and examine the positioning of both service users and social workers.