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#### PhD Project:

##### **The Influence of Activating Educational and Labour Market Policy on the Capabilities of Young Adults. A “Netnographic” Approach**

The title of this ongoing research project investigates the relationship between the current labour market policy and young “employable assistance seekers” (aged 15- 24) with respect to the general question of how the present political system is dealing with the capabilities of these benefit recipients.

The group of young recipients is treated by the Social Code, Book Two - compared to those recipients that are over 25 years and non-recipients - in a “Capabilities-restricted” way - in different areas of life. High control, sharp sanctions and constrained basic rights determine the relationship between the activating labour market policy and the young recipients. It seems that the German legislation is producing inequality of capabilities and injustice, thus a huge need for action in this field is indispensable in order to achieve more equality and justice to create possibilities for a „good (vocational) life“ for young “employable assistance seekers”.

To answer the general research question an analysis and evaluation of the present labour market policy and corresponding programs must be applied. This is carried through the lens of the Capabilities Approach, in particular the concepts of “Capability for Voice” and “Capability for Work”. These concepts allow for a critical and appropriate - multidimensional - debate concerning the present labour market policy. Through applying these theoretical concepts, two core questions will be attempted:

- Does the activating educational and labour market policy support or hinder the real freedom of young adults to choose a job which is of value for him/her?
- Are young adults really in a position to cooperate in the conception and the implementation of their own educational policy program?

#### Curriculum Vitae:

Since 03/2010	<b>Ph.D. Scholarship Holder</b> , International NRW Research School Education and Capabilities, Bielefeld University (Ger) Research Topic: The Influence of Activating Educational and Labour Market Policy on the Capabilities of Young Adults. A “Netnographic” Approach
10/2000-03/2008	<b>Sociology</b> , Bielefeld University (Ger) Degree: Diploma Focus: Qualitative Empirical Research, New Media
10/2011-03/2012	<b>Lecturer</b> , Faculty of Educational Science, Bielefeld University (Ger)
04/2011-09/2011	<b>Lecturer</b> , Institute for Social & Organizational Pedagogy, Hildesheim University (Ger)
10/2010-03/2011	<b>Lecturer</b> , Faculty of Educational Science, Bielefeld University (Ger)
10/2008-03/2009	<b>Lecturer</b> , Faculty of Sociology, Bielefeld University (Ger)
10/2002-08/2005	<b>Student Assistant</b> , Qualitative Empirical Research, Faculty of Sociology, Bielefeld University (Ger)

**Further Information:**

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**Research Interests:**

- Qualitative Empirical Research
- New Media (Netnography)
- Symbolic Interactionism
- Labour Market Policy