

Abstract

Precarisation in Switzerland. Continuities and Ruptures in Paid Work.

This thesis looks into the diagnosis of “uncertain times” centered on job insecurities which are associated with a new social issue that no longer belongs to the margins of society, but constitutes a problem of overall social cohesion.

The main source of insecurity is considered to be the erosion of the standard employment relation, which makes it impossible for paid workers to achieve professional and family planning security. By applying a governmentality perspective and connecting it with the literature on precarisation and precarity, this Ph.D. thesis will investigate the development of subjective job insecurity in the paid worker’s biography applying quantitative and qualitative methodologies. Methodologically this question is addressed by conducting longitudinal analysis using Swiss Household Panel Data and by conducting semi-structured interviews based on identified paid workers’ trajectories that emerged from the quantitative data.