Research seminar

The marketisation and therapisation of education and guidance for ‘at risk’ youth in Finland: a critical evaluation of implications for policy and practice

Visiting research fellow, Dr Kristiina Brunila, University of Helsinki

Boardroom, Faculty of Social Sciences,

Wednesday 13th March 2-4pm

Rehabilitation projects for young offenders in Finland reflect the ways in which discourses and practices associated with ‘marketisation’, ‘therapisation’ and ‘projectisation’ are changing the goals and practices of state-funded education in subtle yet powerful ways. In particular, these discourses and practices change how policy makers, youth workers, educators and young people themselves view subjectivity and how they think the ‘self’ should be governed and managed. One outcome in Finland, other parts of Europe, Canada and Australia, is a discernible rise of assumptions and interventions framed by a ‘therapeutic ethos’.

Dr Brunila from the University of Helsinki is a Visiting Fellow in the School of Education during March 2013, working with Professor Kathryn Ecclestone. She has published widely on a ‘therapeutic ethos’ in education and its implications for changing images of subjectivity and the self in post-compulsory education, youth work and social policy more widely.

This seminar draws on recent empirical work and associated publications and will be of great interest to researchers and students in sociology, education, politics and public policy.

Please let Lindsey Farnsworth; L.j.farnsworth@sheffield.ac.uk know if you plan to attend so that we can organise refreshments.