

soziologische vorträge

symbolische ordnungen sozialer ungleichheit

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Persistence through change: The transformation and tenacity of social class

Dienstag, 13.01.2015, 17:30–19:00, Institut für Soziologie, Seminarraum 3

In this lecture Will Atkinson will summarise his research challenging those who say that social class has diminished in importance as a constraint on thought and action in the face of a creeping ‘individualization’. Reframing the debate using a Bourdieusian definition of class, and drawing on empirical material relating to experiences and decisions in education and employment, he will argue that while the precise nature of what people must consider these days has changed from the past this is no evidence of a new-found ‘reflexivity’, or boundlessly reflective and self-oriented deliberation, but merely demonstrates the ways in which class differences and inequalities have transformed over time without weakening.

Will Atkinson, Dr., is lecturer in social research at the University of Bristol (UK). His field of interest covers social class, inequality, social change and social theory. One of his key publications is ‘Class, Individualization and Late Modernity: In Search of the Reflexive Worker’ published in 2010 (Palgrave).