SPL 510: Politics of Care in a Comparative Perspective

Spring 2017
Thursdays, 10.00-13.00
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Office hours: Meeting with appointment

Care is an indispensible component of human well-being through childhood, adulthood and old age. Care is embedded in a network of relations in our society and care arrangements among the state, family and the market are part of the public policy. Care as a political ideal, suggested by feminist scholars provides a conceptual and also a political framework to problematize the inequalities and injustices that are embedded in the public-private divide, and the failure of public institutions in meeting care needs of its citizens. There is an extensive body of knowledge on care developed particularly by the feminist researchers since the 80s. Since then, care has emerged as a critical concept in gender analysis of the welfare regimes. The care polices as part of a larger social policy framework has been analysed as significant determinants of the welfare model of a country.

This course deals with the politics of care from a comparative perspective. The conceptualization of care; the gendered critique of the welfare state with a special focus on care policies; the care regimes are examined from a cross-national perspective. The care policies in Turkey targeting children, elderly, and disabled are explored within a comparative framework.

Course evaluation is based on the final paper-%70 (4000-5000 words, presented in class before being submitted in written form), presentation of the paper-%10, and 2 response papers-%20 submitted through the course.

Response paper (1) due to March 2
Response paper (2) due to March 23
Student presentations May 4, 11
Final paper due to May 29
Course Outline

I. Introduction (February 9)
Why Care Matters?

II. Conceptualization of Care (February 16)


III. Gender and the Caring Dimension of the Welfare State (February 23)


Response paper submission (March 2)
IV. Care Regimes in Comparative Perspective

Care Regimes in Europe (March 2)


Mediterranean (Familialist) Models of Care Regimes (March 9)


Other Models of Care Regimes (March 16)


**Response Paper submission (March 23)**

V. Emerging Issues and Care (March 23)

**Aging and Elderly Care**


**Work and Family Reconciliation**


VI. Analysis of Care Policies in Turkey

**-Preschool Education and Child Care (March 30)**


- **Elderly and Disability Care** (April 6)


**VII. Transnational Aspects of Care (April 13)**


**Spring break (April 17-23)**

**VIII. Further Thoughts on Care (April 27)**


**Student Presentations (May 4, May 11)**

**Documentary and Discussion (May 18)**

**Submission of the final paper (deadline May 29)**