

ABSTRACT SOCCULT DUBLIN

Housing constraint in France and the UK since 1985:

Effects of the welfare regimes on generational inequalities

Fanny Bugeja (CNRS, France)

In the past 20 years, in France, the share of housing expenses that households spend in their total budget has considerably increased. In 2004, it became the first budgetary margin of French households whereas housing can now be considered as a “forced cost” (FABRE, 2007). This result allows to think that the more unprivileged categories of population are recently constrained by the pressure of housing in their budgets which became determined by this burden. Since French society has often been characterized by generational inequalities to the detriment of young cohorts (CHAUVEL, 1998), the aim of this presentation is, first, to identify, by generational (inter and intra) and social criterions, the categories of population who suffer or are constrained in their life choices by too high housing expenses. The second aim is to show that the differences in the welfares regimes, acquisition systems and social policy between France and the UK do not produce the same kind of inequalities in generational terms. This work is based on a secondary analysis of the Family expenditure survey for the UK and “l’enquête Budget des ménages” for France in 1985 and 2000.