

Social background, educational attainment and labor market integration: an exploration of underlying processes and dynamics

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Propositions (Stellingen)

Accompanying the thesis

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By

Charlotte I. R. Büchner

1. Educational decisions throughout the educational career are a continuous cost-benefit calculation induced by performance- and choice-related differences of social background. (Chapter 2)
2. The impact of choice-related differences in social background on educational attainment is overestimated when it is not corrected for measurement error in performance estimates. (Chapter 3)
3. High math performance in school benefits women's later earnings more strongly than that of men. (Chapter 4)
4. More than a son's socio-cultural environment it is a son's education and cognitive skills that account for the similarity between his father's earnings and that of his own. (Chapter 5)
5. Public officials can nudge people in directions that will make their lives go better while also insisting that the ultimate choice is for individuals, not for the state. (Richard H. Thaler and Cass R. Sunstein)
6. Important political decisions and actions need to be understood by the people; otherwise political actors, institutions as well as the whole political system lose the basis of its democratic legitimization.
7. It is not about how much knowledge children should be taught, but rather about how to learn learning and to apply knowledge creatively.
8. The measurable side of the world is not the world; it is the measurable side of the world. (Martin Seel)
9. A more equal recognition of women in the work environment is related, among others, to men's awareness raising and appreciation of gender differences in the phrasing and communication structure.