

Segmentation and social networks between social milieus

Overview

The project investigates social relationships and practices of social milieus. To what extent do different social groups, classes and milieus interact? How are reciprocal perception and interaction interrelated? The project investigates segmentation and relationships between social milieus in two German cities. We employ qualitative and quantitative methods of network analysis. The project is part of the national institute on social cohesion (FGZ).

Duration:

01 January 2021 - 31 December 2023

Research Team:

[Prof. Dr. Betina Hollstein](#) (Head of project)

[Prof. Dr. Michael Windzio](#) (Head of project)

Dr. Jan-Philip Steinmann

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Details

The project investigates the relationships between the social classes and milieus on different levels: To what extent do social milieus meet and interact in neighborhoods, voluntary associations, businesses, families, friendships, schools, civil society organizations, and media discourses - and to what degree do they seal themselves off from each other? Which milieus are particularly isolated? This question, on which so far surprisingly little knowledge is available, is to be investigated in particular with methods of network research. It is also a question of how knowledge about other social milieus is structured through social contacts or contact barriers. Similar research questions are examined with regard to interethnic relationships and their effects on xenophobia, but so far hardly with regard to the relationships between social milieus.

Employing network analysis and a mixed methods research design, members of different milieus are asked about their relationships and contacts in family, friendship and neighbourhood, in work contexts and leisure activities. The aim is to analyse both offline and online contacts and the use of social networks on the Internet. This survey will be complemented by a socio-spatial "deep drilling" in selected districts (urban/rural spaces, east/west Germany).

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Project Type:

Third-party funded project