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Risk Assessment and Professionalism in Preventive Social Work – Contradictions

Social work in Germany experiences being urged to measure professional interventions by assessing risks and legitimizing professional acting by using 'objective' criteria. Taking the example of risk assessment in the field of child protection dimensions of de-professionalization, aspects of self-definition of professionals, evidence-based social work, perspectives on target groups in social work and institutional changes will be highlighted. On this basis, questions and perspectives for the reflection of professionalism and dealing with insecurity are being (re-)constructed.