Transforming youth and child social services: a European comparison

Caroline Vink,
senior expert Netherlands Youth Institute

Over the coming years the Dutch child and youth social services will be decentralised and transformed. Dutch municipalities will become responsible for all policies concerning children and young people, including child protection and mental health care. The reason behind this decentralisation is that the system is too complex and fragmented, leading to high costs and ineffective services. The demand of specialised child and youth care services also increases by approximately 10% every year. The decentralisation is not only a system change, but should also lead to a transformation in perspectives on child and youth policies. At the Netherlands Youth Institute we have studied the systems and services of many European countries to assess what lessons can be learned to shift the at risk focus to more preventive services and better outcomes for children and families.

Convenor / Dr Sandra J.T.M. Evers, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, VU University Amsterdam.

Information & Registration / Sandra Evers at childrenseminar@hotmail.com

WWW.ANTHROPOLOGYOFCHILDREN.NET