PARADIGM SHIFT IN DISABILITY POLICIES IN TURKEY: FROM INDIGENT HANDICAPPED TO NEEDY PERSON

ABSTRACT: This paper presents the development and characteristics of the public policies for the Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in the world and Turkey. In this regard, the policies for the PWDs as a public policy is considered and analyzed within the realm of social security policies. Besides, the paper reviews and questions how the policies for the PWDs have been brought on the political agenda and how the issue of disability has evolved from a health related matter to a rights based matter in national development plans and institutional reports and studies from a sociological, historical, institutional, legal and ideological perspective within the framework of public policy discipline.

Keywords: Disability, handicapped, public policy, Turkey, social services and assistance