

Review of: "Forget the cake: let them work. Conflicting narratives towards work, health and the plight of asylum seekers in the UK"

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First of all, I would like to point out that this essay is interesting and directs the reader's attention to the most vulnerable in society and to social measures which, unfortunately, are often not adequate and do not lead to the desired outcomes.

I would recommend the author to better support statements like "The current government appears to be motivated by a moral imperative that life should be as difficult as possible for the unemployed in order to drive them into work, regardless of the nature of that work, its remuneration, location and environment." or, for example, "The UK's policy towards migrants has become increasingly one of deterrence resulting in the creation of the 'hostile environment'...". On what basis such judgments are made, what indicators point to such conclusions?

In the Introduction the mention of "deserving" and "undeserving" people living in poverty starts the essay topic nicely. It is something that is thickly present in social welfare systems and in public discourses when talking about measures aimed at people living in poverty.

"Increasing employment and supporting people into work are key elements of the UK government's welfare agenda." - Once again, I encourage the author to substantiate and explain this statement. How does the government show its "welfare agenda", what is it?

"There is evidence that new immigrants work harder than native workers and have significantly less absenteeism." - It would be interesting to see an example of such evidence in this essay.

I commend the review of health care, as well as the general position in society of newly arrived migrants to Great Britain. I think the reader gets a new picture of this problem, which he/she/they did not have before. Unfortunately, I must note that even in the chapter Health care for asylum seekers there was not enough evidence for the claims being made.

The development of theses in the conclusion is quite good.

It would be very interesting and useful to see further essays and scientific articles on this topic.