

Abstract

In my dissertation, I address the questions of which collectives of bodies actors refer to in the context of vaccination, and how actors' perceptions of vaccination are related to bodies and embodiment. By focusing on bodies and embodiment, I try to shift attention away from the polarised aspects of vaccination such as decision-making, opinions and attitudes. To capture the forms of bodies and collectives of bodies, I work with the concepts of leaky bodies, memory and pain. Based on data analysis, I identify three forms of memory: bio-immune, social-collective and memory of lived experience I analyse data from participant observation in three paediatric practices in relation to pain, which becomes a key issue for all actors involved in vaccination practices. To capture the collectives of bodies that emerge during vaccination practices in paediatricians' offices, I focus on the issue of children's agency and the ways in which adults relate to children's bodies, working with the concepts of active subject, object and projecting object.