

MAINSTREAMING INTEGRATION GOVERNANCE.

PROXIES AND TABOOS IN A CONTESTED POLICY CONTEXT

Ilona van Breugel

PROPOSITIONS

1. In a contested policy context mainstreaming is prone to retrenchment and government withdrawal (this thesis)
2. Mainstreaming fails as a way to depoliticize, as it reinforces rather than overcomes policy taboos and dilemmas (this thesis)
3. Mainstreaming requires (local) governments to position themselves with a clear policy framework (this thesis)
4. The variety of local migration policies proves that a 'local dimension' of policy-making does not exist (this thesis)
5. Indirect targeting, such as targeting by proxy, should be considered a deliberate discursive strategy (this thesis)
6. Larger cities are not necessarily more open to migration-diversity than smaller cities
7. While the public and political debate on integration hardens, integration policies remain indirect and evasive
8. Decentred forms of governance should not automatically be assumed to be the best solution to complex and contested policy issues
9. Policymakers apply indirect policy strategies to navigate policy taboos, like with street-level bureaucrats this should be considered a form of discretionary power
10. To understand policy making in a contested context inductive research methods are essential
11. Doubt and nuance are more valuable in understanding than formulating propositions