

From social right to health device: labor in prevailing health law

Abstract

Starting from the theoretical contributions of Michel Foucault and from a critical appraisal of the Declaration of Universal Human Rights and the 1988 Brazilian Constitution, this article maps the constitution of labor as a dimension that goes from social right to health device. In our analysis we find that labor as a social right and health device has a subjective protagonism and has social and economic aspects contemplated by documents. However in defining and orienting ways of being of individuals that work delivered speeches that fall in and control, hindering the openness of workers for movements of creation expansion of life and work in its positivity of experimentations. We conclude that is not enough to recognize labor as a social right, indicate its role as a health strategy or direct political efforts without problematizing not “what kind of work” can be supportive in a more creative construction of its own work and health.

Key-words: Collective health; Public health; Occupational psychology; Public policy.