



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Non-take-up of social support and the implications for social policies

Reijnders, M.A.W.

Citation

Reijnders, M. A. W. (2020, June 17). *Non-take-up of social support and the implications for social policies*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/119360>

Version: Publisher's Version

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/119360>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/119360> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

Author: Reijnders, M.A.W.

Title: Non-take-up of social support and the implications for social policies

Issue Date: 2020-06-17

Propositions

Non-take-up of social support and the implications for social policies - PhD Thesis

Mark Reijnders

1. Taking into account the phenomenon of non-take-up of social support in policy and practice provides a good opportunity to curb social welfare costs. (this thesis)
2. The more energy is devoted to eliminating bureaucratic barriers in the help-seeking process of potential welfare clients, the lower the levels of non-take-up of social support. (this thesis)
3. Understanding non-take-up requires a broad, contextualized perspective that not only focuses on the role and responsibility of the individual who needs help, but also accounts for the roles and responsibilities of policymakers and third sector organizations. (this thesis)
4. There is so much more to be learned from studies of help-seeking for social support when individuals from hard-to-reach groups are included. Researchers should therefore put much more effort into reaching those individuals. (this thesis)
5. Far too often, policymakers ascribe mythical powers to third sector organizations: they are expected to solve some of society's toughest challenges, while receiving fewer and fewer means. Political expectations need to be better aligned with organizational resources.
6. The large degree of ambiguity associated with system responsibility (*stroomverantwoordelijkheid*) still remains one of the great mysteries of the decentralization of social policies in The Netherlands.
7. University professors are expected to excel in a wide range of activities, including research, teaching, managing and outreach. This idea of professors being 'Jack-of-all-trades' is unrealistic. More specialization would be advisable.
8. A large number of rules and procedures for the PhD-defense at Leiden University are textbook examples of unnecessary administrative burdens.
9. To learn about dysfunctional bureaucracy every student of Public Administration should first read the article "*Bureaucratic structure and personality*" by Robert Merton (1940) and then go see the movie "*I, Daniel Blake*" (2016).
10. The launch of a "*Positive Public Administration*" is a great initiative, as it informs the broader public also about the successes and positive contributions of governmental actors.
11. Effectively translating abstract scientific models and concepts into practically relevant insights and tools for public professionals is one of the most gratifying things a PhD-researcher can do.