“Analysis of the precariousness phenomenon: what treatment methodology?”

Ghizlane Baoussy

Doctor of economics, FSJES Mohammedia Morocco.

Abstract

The main objective of this paper is to seek a methodology for evaluating certain criteria and their effectiveness in the probability of falling into the phenomenon of precariousness, with a view to constructing a general approach on the determinants of precariousness.

Introduction

As long as the phenomenon of precariousness has a qualitative aspect, it is necessary to seek to approach it by methods and techniques suitable for the analysis of qualitative variables.

In order to list all the possible scenarios on the determinants of precariousness. Such a method, based on qualitative econometric models, should allow the task to be carried out correctly.

1: What is precariousness?

The latest economic and social changes, especially in developed countries, have led to the deterioration of the job market, which has doubly worsened the possibility of falling into precarious situations.

“Many authors have published on precariousness and its effects on health (Townsend, 1987; Townsend, 1991), in particular on the situation in France (Chauvin, 1998; Joubert, 1997; Mizrahi, 1998; Parizot, 1998; Paugam, 1996). The processes of precariousness have also been described by J. Wrezinski in his report on poverty and economic precariousness (Wrezinski, 1987)”

In this report, precariousness is defined as "a state of social instability characterized by the absence of one or more security, in particular that of employment, allowing individuals and families..."
to assume their professional and family obligations, and social rights, and to enjoy their fundamental rights).

Indeed, J. Wrezinski summarizes the determinants of precariousness in: The socio-economic level, Housing, Saved financial funds, Culture, The level of education, Participation in development through non-governmental organizations.

To concretize the determinants of the phenomenon of precariousness which were raised by J. Wrezinski, P. Townsend, sees this phenomenon as "an observable and demonstrable state of relative disadvantage vis-à-vis the local community or the society as a whole to which the individual, family or group belongs."

Indeed, P. Townsend tries to distinguish between what he calls material disadvantage and social disadvantage and considers them as two forms of precariousness which have a close relationship with health.

**2: How to measure such a phenomenon of a hidden qualitative nature?**

The first question that jumps out at this level: how do you measure this phenomenon of precariousness? The legitimacy of this question comes from the fact that the main characteristic of precariousness is that it is dissimilar and difficult to see except for medical specialists, thus: "precariousness can only be measured with reference to the instability of situations with regard to multiple dimensions: resource irregularities, links with the labor market, educational capital, family situations, housing conditions, health, etc. ". This is why "there is no overall measure of Precariousness apart from partial data relating to the labor market (fixed-term contract, forced part-time ...), to the family situation or even to the housing conditions".

Indeed, the composite indicators which have already been used in this field, given the difficulty of collecting data on individuals, do not reflect the real reality, which is why recourse must be had to the territorialization of measures of precariousness at work, using a multidimensional approach.

Insecurity is therefore linked to many factors; “In fact, precariousness can be seen from different angles such as housing, work, hygiene, mental and physical health, social and family isolation, etc.”. In addition, precariousness is characterized on the one hand by its dynamic in other words it is a phenomenon which is not static over time and on the other hand by its dependence on the environment and the entourage in which the person leads his life.

---

2 P. Townsend ; 1987 material and social deprivation
4 Benoît TUDREJ ; Précarité analyse d’un concept ; Année Universitaire 2006-2007 ; Mémoire de Master Recherche en Ethique Médicale Laboratoire d'Ethique Médicale et de Médecine Légale ; Université René Descartes Paris V ; Directeur de mémoire : Pr Christian Hervé Benoît TUDREJ
3: What is the most suitable method to take into account all the determining factors of the phenomenon?

We believe that the use of an econometric methodology that will capture all the possible scenarios of what we can call the propensity to sink into precariousness.

Thus the creation of a model which makes it possible to detect the variables likely to influence the existence or not of the phenomenon of precariousness, can help us to summarize the determinants of the phenomenon.

And therefore, the use of qualitative models will allow us to develop a methodology for determining all the scenarios on the probability of falling into the precariousness that we propose to call the propensity to be precarious.

Conclusion

Since the use of qualitative models makes it possible to give the equation on which we must base ourselves to determine all the probabilities of falling into the phenomenon of precariousness, it would be almost impossible to calculate all these probabilities and therefore we would be obliged to develop an application computer science to detect these probabilities and this is what we will develop for the next paper.
Bibliography

- Carine Chatain et Laurent Gerbaud, (2007)« Un indicateur de mesure de la précarité et de la santé sociale » : le score EPICES L'expérience des Centres, Revue de l'Ires 2007/1 (n° 53), pages 3 à 49