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lecture

Drifts in microfinance : emancipating, educating or exploiting

Tuesday 17th March 2015

At 6pm

Simone WEIL amphitheater
5, allée Jacques Berque, Nantes

By

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Theme

While Microfinance was seen as reformist inspired ideology, it has now become a neoliberal, patriarchal and moralistic ideology driven by a 'Social' Capitalism and economists like Esther Dufflo. The poor, primarily women, are either seen as creative entrepreneurs and responsible consumers, or as impulsive and irrational, sick people to care for.

Micro-credit, micro-savings and financial education would be the miracle solutions to the development of entrepreneurial potential and emancipation by consumption, or focusing impulsive temptations and rationalization of behavior. Surveys conducted in various parts of the world show the excesses and disappointments of micro-finance. A political vision of poverty and the market can overcome deadlocks of dominant ideologies. Several alternative forms of solidarity-based savings and credit offer the prospect of reinventing the wealth, solidarity and the fight against principalities and inequality.