

## **Crise, école, terrains sensibles**

A short presentation of our research team

Our research work relates to the following topics :

- analysing from the inside the way institutions such as schools, social and educational centers deal with the crisis phenomena they have to face, above all violence and school dropping out.
- therefore, the researches are focused on experiments and innovations carried out mainly by professionals but also by other actors involved, inside these institutions and in their environment.
- this implies a global approach to educational issues from the classroom to town-life. Such an approach questions the traditional splits in France between teaching and educating, between formal and informal learning, between urban and social approaches of a territory.

Research orientations :

- a "sensitive" approach based on long -lasting fieldwork in order to attain an in-depth understanding of local resources, places and actors. This approach enables us to perceive situations and conflicts in the making, which otherwise could not be identified through overall classical approaches of the field.
- partnership : we always ask for the local actors' point of view and analyses. In most researches, the work is carried out in cooperation with all the people involved ( including families and

students).

- a network approach : most of our work consists in setting up links between actions, people, discourses, institutions inside and outside a local territory. This approach contributes to a new outlook on educational issues in challenging areas.

Our team is recognized on a national and international scale for its works on youth and students problems in challenging areas in a multicultural context.

main fields : urban networks, youth centers, town youth councils, disadvantaged schools in priority areas, schools for children with special needs, training leaders, teachers and educators working in challenging areas