

University of Macau

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Neoliberal Discourse and Post-Industrial Reality: Social Intervention in the New Welfare State

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Abstract:

This study set out to examine the truths and myths of neoliberal politics by looking at the evolving gap between neoliberal discourse and the reality of increased social intervention by the public hand. Case studies examined comprise Sweden, France, and Switzerland, Brazil, Chile, US, Australia, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Malaysia. The paper concludes that public commitment to social intervention in form of social investment has been the most common form of response to globalization. To a large extent, this development co-exists with the rise of neoliberal discourse. Welfare state reform that follows neoliberal policy imperatives has not been the choice of governments of most case studies under scrutiny, particularly in Europe, East Asia, and parts of Latin America.

- **Date: 26 April 2007 (Thursday)**
- **Time: 3:00 – 5:00p.m.**
- **Venue: L105 (Luso-Chinese Building)**
- **Language: English**

All are welcome!