Drawing on in-depth and longitudinal ethnographic work with unaccompanied young people making the critical transition to institutional ‘adult-hood’ in the UK and beyond, this paper engages with the three core themes. It speaks to how young people grapple with the advantages and disadvantages of sustaining or shedding the label of the ‘unaccompanied minor’; it highlights the importance of social networks and reciprocity as they make decisions about how best to carve out futures for themselves; and it demonstrates what can happen to them when they cease to meet the moral and humanitarian expectations of the ‘deserving’ refugee child.

Through the lived experiences and perspectives of unaccompanied young people, the paper demonstrates the intrinsic link between their sense of subjective wellbeing and capabilities as freedoms in the context of complex migration and institutional transitions. The net result, at least for those unable to secure their legal status, is a constant striving for such freedoms against structures and systems which both thwart their efforts and yet paradoxically can also create space for new forms of resistance and new ways of ‘being’ and ‘doing’.

UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

Transitions, Capabilities and Wellbeing

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Anmeldung
Es ist keine Anmeldung erforderlich.

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Seminar mit Referentin
Es besteht die Möglichkeit, in einem Seminar am Folgetag mit weiteren Referierenden die Inhalte des Vortrags vertieft zu diskutieren.

Donnerstag, 8. Juni 2017, 08.00 – 18.00 Uhr
Universität Bern, Hochschulstrasse 4, Raum Nr. 115, 1. OG West, CH-3000 Bern

Anmeldung
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