



## **Absenteeism and Workplace Earnings Dispersion**

**Kjersti Misje NILSEN**

kjersti.m.nilsen@socialresearch.no

Institute for Social Research

This paper examines the relation between sickness absence and workplace earnings inequality using Norwegian administrative register data for 2001-2007. The evidence suggest that increasing within-workplace earnings inequality in the lower part of the distribution give increased sickness absence in terms of days. The number of spells is not significantly affected by an increase. For the top of the earnings distribution, increased dispersion is associated with a reduction in rate of sick days across workplace, while the relation is positive within workplaces labour market status appear important only in explaining the results for women.