**On the Threshold:**

**The Story of School Security Guards in Israel**

**Abstract**

Under neoliberalism, indirect employment systems have flourished worldwide. Concurrently, private security services expanded. In Israel, indirect employment and the political-security climate gave rise to private security at schools. Most research on private security focuses on socio-economic dimensions; little explores guards’ personal world. The current qualitative study explores the experiences and perceptions of Israeli school security guards using semi-structured interviews, observations, and document analysis. Findings indicate that the world of Israeli school security guards is characterized by multilayered liminality. This liminality relates to global socio-economic developments, alongside core aspects of Israeli society, oscillating between a security ethos and neoliberalism.

Keywords: Private Security, School Security Guards, Neoliberalism, Liminality, Israel