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WORKING PAPERS



7th Central & Eastern European
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New
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Chisinau, Republic of Moldova • June 25-26, 2020

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Academic, Social, and Cultural Adaption of International Students in Canada

Svitlana BABUSHKO¹, Olha BANIT², Lilia BARANOVA³

Abstract

A growing number of students go abroad for studies, particularly to Canada. 21% of all Canadian tertiary students are international. They face a number of transitional difficulties. Thus, the question of their adequate integration in the host community is becoming very acute nowadays. The study highlights three types of international students' adaptation: academic, social and cultural. The most typical challenges in each adaptation are identified and shortly described. Academic challenges include lack of language proficiency, different education values, interaction with the university faculty, staff and mates. Social issues for international students are living on- or off-campus, initial difficulties, independence and loneliness, relationship with domestic students and wider involving them into university life. Culturally, international students face the following challenges: culture shock, the lack of culture wellness. Thus, as demonstrated in this study, having a better understanding of these students' academic challenges, university faculty and staff can recognize students' needs and effectively offer supportive services. The university needs to be prepared to meet students not only academically but also socially and culturally. This study also describes the priorities in Canadian

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international education strategy that makes Canada one of the world's top learning destinations.

Keywords: International students' academic adaption; social adaption; cultural adaption; Canada.

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The Actuality of the Reign of Number

Ștefania BEJAN¹

Abstract

The concern of some philosophers, psychologists, writers, sociologists, psychiatrists and so on for human behavior in certain hypostases which have become classic to social "dissection" – individual and group – have revealed "portraits" that we always see reproduced in our existence as a species. In this approach, we are interested in the validity of the conclusions drawn by parents of social psychology, from Gustave Le Bon (precursor of the field) to Serge Moscovici (the established founder).

Surprisingly revolutionary at the time of their launch, the authors' ideas regarding the differences of mentality and action of the individual as such vs. the same individual found in a psychological crowd received confirmation in an era when quantity and number don't only gain ground in spite of quality and elite, but come to represent "the only logic of history". With a terrible force, doubled by the reduced capacity of collective judgment, the crowd, easily led by charismatic leaders (with few and fixed ideas, using a vocabulary "populated" by motivational terms such as: freedom, people, justice, homeland and so on, appealing to feelings and inducing impressions at the level of the receptors) acts impulsively, proving intolerance and authoritarianism. "Ready to always rebel against weak governance, the crowd bends obsequious in the face of strong governance" (G. Le Bon). The disdain of the psychological crowd towards the collapsed leader (weakness, unsuccess, doubt do not raise understanding from the masses), the non-empathy in relation to kindness,

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the generosity of the leader, the oscillating attitude regarding the morality of the group of belonging make the reunions of the individuals in certain contexts to be real "paintings" exemplary for what, over a century ago, was intended to be civilization: "fixed rules, a certain discipline, the transition from instincts to reason, the foresight of the future, a high degree of culture...".

Qualities and actions socially validated in the status of the individual who is "pulled out" from the crowd disappear instantly, naturally, when the individual is included in the large group. In exchange for "betraying" certain attributes such as: critical thinking, morality, non-obedience and so on, the individual found in the indistinct mass will receive the feeling of power, doubled by the lack of assuming personal responsibility. The comfort, security, force transferred to the individual by the "umbrella" of the significant number preserves, long-term, the majority rule in modern democracies.

The perfect reflection of the characteristics and mechanisms of the „era of masses" (S. Moscovici) is noticed in the current context of electronic democracy, in which the main criterion for online media is the very large audience, generating advertising, and the „chain" continues: important funding sources get to establish the new rules in the construction and dissemination of contents; the result is a real industry of clickbait and fake news!

Keywords: psychological crowd; charismatic leader; authority; obedience; electronic democracy; fake news.

Biodata



Ștefania BEJAN has a PhD in Philosophy, with a thesis on *Identity Strategies in Postmodern Media Culture* (2009), after graduating the Faculty of Philosophy, „Al. I. Cuza" University, Iași (1988) and obtaining a Master degree in Social

Anthropology and Ethnology (same university, 2005). Daily written press journalist starting from 1990, and, between 1993-2001, producer of programs in the fields of culture and education at the *Europa Nova* TV station. Associate Professor at the Department of Communication and Public Relations, Faculty of Philosophy and Social-Political Sciences („Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University), course coordinator for *Theories of Mass Communication, The Mass Media System, Communication with the Press, New Media*. Published the books *Discursul Educației (The Discourse of Education)*, Editura Fundației AXIS, 2003, and *Strategii identitare în cultura media postmodernă (Identitary Strategies in Postmodern Media Culture)*, Editura Fundației AXIS, 2014. Chief Editor of *Caiete Sociologice (Sociological Review)*, 2004-2008, and author of numerous specialized articles. Former beneficiary of the postdoctoral programme *Knowledge Based Society, POSDRU/89/1.5/S/56815*, 2011-2013.

The Architectural Containers of Student Life in Pavia, Italy

Maria BOSTENARU DAN¹

Abstract

In 1997 the Istituto Universitario di Studi di Pavia (IUSS) was founded. The University of Pavia, in the same city, is one of the oldest in Italy, Europe and the world, reinforced by Maria Theresia during Habsburg rule. Initially the IUSS was co-founded by the University of Pavia, the historic colleges of merit in Pavia and EDISU. Such a structure in the city of private colleges of merit is unique for Italy, and resembles other old and renowned universities in Europe, such as Oxford and Cambridge. Looking at the architecture of the buildings connected to student life in Pavia a theory by urban planning theoretician Alexandru Sandu, which differentiates between urban life and urban form, the contents and the container, is applied. Some universities are archiving student life testimonies. The author's former affiliation as Marie Curie fellow allows the testimony. This will be put in connection to the evolving architecture:

- the EDISU colleges architecture, one of them: Collegio Volta.
- two private colleges from the founding ones: Collegio Borromeo and Collegio Ghislieri, both founded by saints of the 16th century. The colleges have their own chapels. Student meals are common as one might remember from Harry Potter.
- a recently founded college of the IUSS: CAR (Cardinale Agostino Riboldi) college, in a renovated location including a former church.

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- the new headquarters in the 900 years old Broletto of Pavia, restored, of the IUSS.

For the last two cases questions of adaptation in restoration to university function are touched.

Keywords: college; restoration; historic building; research mobility; Marie Curie

Biodata



Maria BOSTENARU DAN graduated in architecture with focus on urban planning in Karlsruhe, Germany. Her scientific title is from the "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urbanism, where she holds a permanent position as researcher at the Department of Urban and Landscape Design. She spent more of a decade abroad in Germany (Karlsruhe and Darmstadt) and Italy (Pavia and Rome) and had short research stays in Portugal, Hungary and Canada. She is member of ICOMOS and several alumni organisations. International research features several COST participations. Her research focuses on disaster management, 20th century architecture and geographic spread of historic landmarks.

The Principle of Autonomy in Organizing Sports

Liliana BUDEVICI – PUJU¹

Abstract

Currently, the sports order is increasingly imposed by certain rules, including the principle of autonomy, from the decisions of the referees during the competition, to those of the competent judicial bodies. The dissemination of the culture of sports law in the vast community of physical education has become a necessity in the knowledge based society.

The sport phenomenon, by respecting the principle of autonomy of the common law, generates special attention especially by training and exercising its function of promoting social cohesion in connection with the respect for the fundamental rights of citizens, such as health and education. Moreover, sport is an absolutely central phenomenon in contemporary society, and the law of sport, consolidated over the years through the experience of different sports federations (especially football), is currently a subject dominated by autonomy and disciplinary rules, even scientific ones.

The absolute complexity and continuous improvement of the legal framework, which the sports field is constantly facing, requires legislators and practitioners in sports jurisprudence to develop a specific competence, at the same time without ignoring the transnational implications that sports law requires for its natural vocation. Likewise, the regulatory and management powers of the sports organizations, including their power to impose binding rules on their members and affiliates, are eloquent aspects of the autonomy recognized to them by national legal systems through special laws. The national sport has the particularity of acting in a certain way

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according to the norms of state regulation, in consensus with those of the international sports system and according to different degrees of autonomy or dependence. The sports organization is established and developed within the state and international system (e.g.: the European Union and the International Olympic Committee), which generates a certain degree of subordination and compliance, as well as certain limitations of the principle of autonomy.

Throughout the article we intend to address certain situations and cases of compliance with the principle of autonomy in sports organization, including some of its limits.

The principle of the autonomy in sporting order can be considered a millennial acquisition of our legal civilization, if we consider that starting from the *Corpus iuris civilis* of Justinian (529-534 AD), regarding the boxing competitions of those times, it has been established that „*littera (quis) in colluctatione, vel in pancratio, vel pugiles dum inter se exercentur, alius alium occiderit, si quidem in certamine publica (alius alium occiderit), cessat Aquilia: quia gloriae causa et virtutis, non iniuriae gratia videtur damnum datum*”.

Keywords: sport; autonomy; competence; principle; limits; rules.

Biodata



Liliana Budevici-Puiu is a university associate professor, PhD in Pedagogy at The State University of Physical Education and Sport, Chisinau, President of Scientific Council. I have published over 150 scientific articles, textbooks, lecture notes and monographs in sport management and legislation. Activity scientific - teaching is centered mainly on the physical culture and sports, professional management and legislation. I teach courses in Cycle I, II and III and qualifying as PhD supervisor. Successfully participate in research projects of national and international, we reviewed

various scientific articles. In the period 2020-2021 I exercise my postdoctoral status.

Reflection of the “Dunarea de Jos” Archiepiscopate in Mass-Media

Valerica CELMARE¹

Abstract

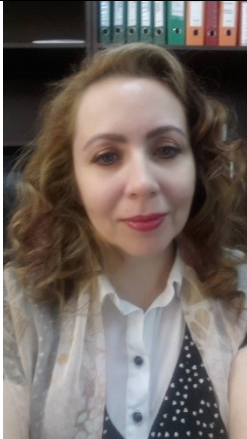
In today's society, the universe of public space is dominated by mass-media, which occupies a highly privileged position thus being the main agent of public opinion regarding the realities of socio-cultural existence. The presence of any subject, persona or institution in the mass-media represents today a key factor in how the it is seen by the public eye, also being directly influenced by how mediatised it is. Although, in reality, mediatisation itself does not reflect the value of something, it is vital to be known via publicity to further promote a favorable public image.

Taking into account the context which was just presented, I have decided to analyse in this article the media presence of a religious entity that has taken roots in the historic region of “Dunarea de Jos”, which, by tradition has taken on to itself the role of moral and spiritual authority in the community that it sheperds. Research has offered a close analysis of the image that The “Dunarea de Jos” Archiepiscopate has created for itself, the purpose of the study being to highlight how its function as a moral and spiritual authority reflects into the social media of today. The analysis is broken down into multiple layers, being approached from numerous perspectives, seeing as the religious entity that is being studied has in its own way a bipolar configuration by being first and foremost a institution with an educating role but also a religious community that holds profound spiritual presence.

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Keywords: „Dunărea de Jos” Archbishopric; Church; Institution; Community; Culture; Socio-cultural values; Religious values; Social representations; Institutional image.

Biodata



My name is Valerica Celmare, I am a lecturer PhD in sociology at the Faculty of History, Philosophy and Theology at "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați.

I have a degree in social work and Orthodox Theology and a master's degree in Human Resources Management, with diplomas obtained at Al. I. Cuza Iași University.

I obtained the title of doctor in sociology in 2012 with a research in the field of Sociology of Religions, whose coordinator is the renowned university professor Dr. Nicu Gavriluță.

My doctoral thesis surprises the church as an essential factor of the definition of the social and religious Romanian specificity, following the socio-political challenges generated throughout time, but also the cultural juncture of modernity. To this end, the Iasi Archbishopric was analysed, not only as an institution, an administrative unit of the Romanian Orthodox church, but also in its community version, as holder of a deep spiritual life. The study offered me the possibility of a multidimensional analytical approach, which included the investigation of the institutional and community framework, the exploration of the elements of social and religious modernity within the communities of believers, and the image analysis of the Iasi Archbishopric.

My concern for the Sociology of Religions has materialized, over time, through other studies published on the role of the Church in community life, the most recent study being the work Liturgy and Philanthropy in the Lower Danube

Archbishopric, which surprises social work of the ecclesiastical institution analyzed.

Within the department where I work, I am also involved in other research projects in the fields of social assistance and human resources, fields in which I have worked as a professional practitioner.

Artificial Intelligence and Vices of Consent in Notarial Procedures

Liviu-Bogdan CIUCĂ¹

Abstract

Technological developments, the emerging digital era, and the skill set that new technologies require, have lead us to analyze the impact of such factors on performing notarial procedures. Concern regarding the security of the legal circuit, the true intentions of the notarial service applicant, and, above all, ensuring that the will of the parties is not vitiated, forces us to thoroughly question the role and place of artificial intelligence in the context of the non-contentious notarial proceedings as well as the relationship of its use with the obligation to ascertain the parties' unqualified consent.

According to the Oracle website: "In simple terms, artificial intelligence (IA) refers to systems or machines that imitate human intelligence to perform various activities and can iteratively improve on the basis of the information it collects".

In other words, artificial intelligence is a concept that refers to an imitation, an emulative system that is designed to generate an advantage for the user through its speed and storage power.

This paper seeks to decipher the role of artificial intelligence in notarial proceedings by identify the strengths of this technology and the possibility or impossibility of using it in notarial activity. Technological development requires that these systems to be taken on only to the extent that the advantages offered do not become vulnerabilities for the

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public. Our research aims to formulate a solution as to where a limit should be drawn and who will impose it.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence; notarial procedure; vices of consent; notarial; technology; digitalization.

Biodata



conferences.

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The "Trade-off" Theory in Regional Development Policy. A Comparative Study Romania versus Bulgaria

Raluca Irina CLIPA¹, Mihaela IFRIM²

Abstract

Uneven regional development is a problem that has preoccupied specialists for decades, both in the development policies of regional groups (i.e. EU) and at national level. In addition to the issue of social justice, growing disparities between regions are considered inefficient in terms of macroeconomic policies. In this paper we argue, from the perspective of space economy, that regional inequalities arising from the inherent, but not irreversible, tendency of economic activity to concentrate in certain locations (urban and industrial agglomerations), translate into national economic growth. If, on the contrary, we wanted to support a regional policy of reducing inequalities, for reasons of social equity, cohesion or the efficiency of macroeconomic policies, we would do so by sacrificing the goal of maximizing growth.

Based on Gardiner's study (2010), the paper aims to empirically analyze the `trade-off` theory of regional policy in two SE European countries: Romania and Bulgaria. The selected countries are relatively close in terms of level of development and integrated into the EU at the same time. Our proposal is to investigate if economic agglomerations could lead to national economic growth, at the cost of sacrificing the general objective of regional development policy, translated in a well-balanced

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development of the national territory. We build our argument on explaining the concept and mechanisms of agglomeration economies, on their role in economic growth. The agglomeration of economic activity and population in certain locations is a process that demonstrates, once again, that the economy is not a zero-sum game, and the effects of agglomeration spread beyond the crowded space. We analyze the spatial concentration of economic activity in the two countries, using Adjusted Geographic Concentration index (AGC) developed by Spiezia (2002), and evaluate the regional competitiveness (NUTS 2) provided by Regional Competitiveness Index 2019 and Eurostat database and correlate the results with GDP growth rate at the national and regional level. The findings show that Romania and Bulgaria could benefit from the advantages of economic agglomerations in order to stimulate national growth. The paper offers normative suggestions and at the same time identifies new research directions.

Keywords: Regional development; regional policy; agglomeration; growth.

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When Pleasing You is Killing Me”- the Narcissist-Codependent Couple. A Literature Review

Alina COSTIN¹, Henrietta TORKOS²

Abstract

In the recent years, the subject of narcissism has attracted the attention of psychologists due to the severity of the abuse that describes any relationship it has, regardless of its nature. Such a relationship involves a lot of features, it uses a number of specific terms such as, gaslight, trauma bond, triangulation, smearcampaign, manipulation, etc., some already entered in the current vocabulary of those interested in the subject. This paper reviews the literature that addresses the particularities of the romantic relationship, the codependency between a person with a narcissistic personality disorder and her partner. There were consulted 40 relevant, current works, which rigorously outlined the dynamics in relations of this type. Narcissistic personality is associated with cyberbullying (SeCY Fan, 2019), shame (Vaknin, 2019), perfectionist self-presentation (Casale et all, 2019), hunting lovers (Niemyjska, 2020) etc.

Keywords: narcissistic personality disorder; codependency; boundaries; trauma; gas lighting; mental health.

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education, theory and methodology of instruction and evaluation, classroom management, theory and methodology of curriculum and outdoor education. Finished studies in Norway, on education and outdoor learning strategies, also on classroom management. In the present, works as a University Assistant, holding lectures in pedagogy and psiho-pedagogy specialties.

Respect for the Probative Value of the Psychiatric Forensic Expertise – A Guarantor of Avoiding Judicial Errors in Criminal Proceedings

Simona Irina DAMIAN¹, Madălina Maria DIAC²,
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Abstract

Psychiatric forensic expertise is a type of evidence with a high degree of scientificity and, also a high degree of objectivity and credibility, which places it at the top of the evidence hierarchy in criminal proceedings. The practice of the courts reveals, a series of cases in which the conclusions of the psychiatric forensic examination were not taken into account at the time when the court issued a verdict, considering that the grounds on which the expertise was eliminated as relevant evidence in those cases is sometimes debatable. This article analyses the probative value of forensic psychiatric expertise from the perspective of the conflict that arises in judicial practice between the principle of scientificity of the evidence and the principle of sovereignty of the judge in assessing the evidence. It analyses the effects that scientificity has on the judge's actual possibility of assessing conclusiveness of the expertise by comparison with other evidence. The conclusions we formulate at the end of our analysis are that the psychiatric forensic expertise has the greatest probative force among all

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the evidence that could attest to the mental state of the victim or the accused; this evidence can be disregarded by the court at the time of ruling only if there is evidence with equal probative value to combat it; ordering new evidence by the court (supplements to expertise, new expertise, objections, requesting clarifications from the expert) to verify the credibility of the conclusions of the initial expertise should be done only after ensuring a framework that guarantees the compliance with the principle of scientific management of evidence.

Keywords: forensic psychiatric expertise; probative force; hierarchy of evidence; scientificity of evidence; judicial errors.

Biodata



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Considerations and Jurisprudential Aspects Regarding the Promissory Sales Contract in the New Civil Code

Mirela Carmen DOBRILĂ¹

Abstract

The article presents the regulation in the New Romanian Civil Code and the perspectives on the unilateral promise of sale, the unilateral promise of purchase and the bilateral promise of sale and purchase. Along with the considerations regarding the regulation from the New Civil Code for promissory sales contract/ promise of sale or purchase, the article presents relevant jurisprudential aspects, for example, on remedies for non-performance of obligations from the promissory sales contract, or regarding the solution of the supreme court regarding the form in which a promise to sell a real estate must be concluded in case of pronouncing a decision to replace an authentic contract.

Keywords: promissory sales contract; promise of sale or purchase; New Romanian Civil Code- Law no. 287/2009; case law.

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Reshaping the Past and Rethinking the Present: The Archival Revolution in Romania

Marina-Theodora ENACHE¹

Abstract

Nowadays, the archives represent one the greatest treasures of a country. Not only is it the institution that safeguards its past, but it also allows each individual to know where they came from. Not too long ago, the situation was different in the former communist states. During the dictatorial regimes, the legislation would not allow for the recent history to be researched so easily. Sure, there were some loopholes, but those wouldn't apply to any researcher or to anyone who would want to learn about his past.

Of course, after the fall of the communism, things started to change, but in a different time span from a country to another. Sure, the change was inherent to a new democratic regime, but what made the biggest difference when it came to the historical research was what remained known as "the archival revolution". The long awaited liberalization of the archives access would not only allow the research of communist perpetrators and of the communist underground movement. Not only that, but now everyone would have free access to the archives.

Starting from here, this paper will show how the archival revolution reshaped not only the historical research, but also the lives of ordinary people, who would now be allowed to find out about their relatives or to repossess their lands. For this, I will make use of a new study field, called psychogenealogy.

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Keywords: archival revolution; psychogenealogy; communist perpetrators; communist underground movement; retrocession.

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My doctoral research theme is the underground biography of Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, Romania's first communist leader.

My areas of interest are the Romanian communist underground movement, writers in the communist period, interwar economy, gender studies and perpetrators studies. I have published papers regarding some communist activists, Marin Preda and the Romanian communist underground movement. Also, in the past I benefited by the Doina Cornea scholarship, offered by IICCMER.

Preliminaries on Ethics and Informed Consent in Childbirth

Ana FRUNZĂ¹

Abstract

Focusing on the autonomy of the patient in decision making process, we will bring into analysis the informed decision and informed consent in the labor and childbirth.

This paper is bringing into analysis some of the ethical concerns that appear in the relationship between obstetrician and patient that may affect the decisions of both parties in the childbirth.

Childbirth, as a medical act and process, is not classified as a medical emergency, but a natural process that is expected and prepared throughout the pregnancy, by both the mother and the obstetrician who monitors the evolution of pregnancy. By excluding it from the category of medical emergencies, or lifesaving interventions, the childbirth is an act whose finality is pursued during entire pregnancy, being a natural process and not a medical condition. In this context, the relationship between the pregnant woman and the obstetrician should rely on respecting the person autonomy and its own moral values; a paternalistic attitude of the medical professional of making medical interventions without taking into account the mother's decision cannot have moral justification, as in some life-saving medical exceptions.

Keywords: informed consent; informed decisions; moral values; patient autonomy in labor and childbirth; childbirth ethical practice;

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As a Research Fellow in an Advanced Certified Program in Research Ethics, conducted by the Union Graduate College Center for Bioethics and Clinical Leadership (Schenectady, New York) in partnership with the Department of Medical and Ethical History of Vilnius University (Vilnius, Lithuania) he graduated in "International Bioethics", "International Research Ethics", "Research Ethics". (2016)

A significant part of his scientific research revolves around the construction of frameworks for the development of ethical expertise in the field of social services, pursuing a methodology based on deconstructivism, originating in Derridean philosophy, the development of a new model of ethical expertise - supervision of ethics.

The research undertaken so far is based in addition to reflection on ethical expertise in the field of social services practice, and the attempt to identify the constitutive ethical values of social practice, in the promotion of which ethics expertise, through various application models, is involved.

In the field of research ethics, his scientific efforts have corroborated the activities carried out during the Advanced Research Ethics Program, followed in 2014-2015, supported by Fogarty International Center, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, National Institute on Drug Abuse, USA. In this program he carried out the research project "Informed

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He is an associate professor at the "Ștefancel Mare" University of Suceava, Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences, Romania.

Creating an Inclusive Education in Pandemic Context through Social Constructionist Practices

Alexandra GALBIN¹

Abstract

The purpose of education is to learn how to live in groups, how to deal with economic inequalities, pandemics, diversity, consumerism, how to develop the appropriate skills to live in a peaceful and collaboratively world. The current Romanian system is facing a lot of challenges and the practices met in schools are based on a traditional way of viewing knowledge. The education needs to create equal opportunities for each child to have access to education, to be more flexible, to promote creativity, to involve more the voice and child participation. In this context of adversity, generated by Covid19, the online education has limited access for vulnerable students, generates discrepancies between children's rights to education and there is a lack of harmony between students, students and teachers and beyond. The paper analyses the need for relational practices, how can we redesign the educational system to create and inclusive education, to bring more engagement, compassion and enthusiasm to learn.

Keywords: inclusive education; pandemic; social constructionist practices.

Biodata

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A Foray into the Intelligence World. The U Brigade as Part of the Foreign Intelligence Service of Romania During the Communist Regime

Sorin GĂINĂ¹

Abstract

One of the most hidden services / brigades within the Foreign Intelligence Department of Romania in the communism era was The "U" Brigade - perhaps the most controversial brigade due to its activity, a special brigade that had evolved over time due to the practices used during the SSI and later the techniques taken over and improved from the KGB. The brigade was in charge of training the fully conspiring officers, the Illegals. The officers trained in this brigade were known as ghost officers, benefited from individual training, a conspiratorial status (biography-legend), their true identity being known only by the hierarchical chief and the head of the personnel department in the Central.

This article approaches both the aspects of the construction and the development of the U Brigade as a part of DIE. The main purpose of this article is to present an emerging part of the intelligence world. As a first step, I will focus my attention upon the birth process of the U Brigade, next I will analyze the chart of the brigade that will involve another services and organizational things. Finally I will try to (as accurate as possible) describe their methods and to present why is this kind of action such important in the intelligence world. More about the evolution of the U Brigade within DIE will be analyzed in the subsequent case study.

Keywords: U Brigade; DIE, intelligence; communism; history; Romanian.

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Covid-19 Pandemic as a Synchronous Factor in the Process of Transition of the Republic of Moldova to Democracy

Zinaida GRIBINCEA¹

Abstract

The Covid-19 pandemic caused a multidimensional crisis, at a local and global level, and various social-political and economic changes, leveled, in certain dimensions, the differences between states with a consolidated democracy and those in transition towards democracy. The issue of the pandemic is frequently addressed in the media, and at the same time it is a reference topic for the scientific community, which tries to interpret the effects it produced in various states. In recent years, the state of democracy has deteriorated significantly globally, as reflected in numerous reports by international bodies, which monitor the evolution of democratic processes worldwide, and currently there are various opinions and speculations on this topic, in the context of this intervention of the pandemic as a synchronous factor in the process of transition to democracy, but also as a tool for testing the resilience of democratic governments. In these conditions of uncertainty, the pandemic could be a determining factor in delaying the third wave of democratization or, conversely, a premise for re-ideologizing and focusing on respect for democratic principles and values.

A significant role in reflecting the pandemic as a phenomenon and its consequences, as well as ensuring the transparency of government actions in overcoming the crisis is played by the media, which must maintain its neutrality in

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relation to political power, but according to reports and rankings, freedom of the press is a difficult exam for many states, including the Republic of Moldova. The issue of a mass-media controlled by politicians continuously remains relevant, and the issue of access to information became even more acute during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Keywords: democracy, pandemic; transition to democracy.

Biodata

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Blue Consensual, the Shape of Blue, Mare Nostrum. Unconventional Experiments in Fashion

Alina GURGUȚĂ¹

Abstract

Still marked by Modernism and Postmodernism, the two artistic currents that divided the twentieth century, now, in the first part of the 21st century, when fashion has certainly gained a place among the visual arts, we want through the multiple facets of the art of garments to transmit messages and to share experiences and artistic preoccupations of the young generation. If Modernism started from Central Europe, Postmodernism came from the free world overseas, now ideas come from all directions and no place on earth seems too distant for the actual system of communication.

The present project, in continuous development, aims to demonstrate current ways of communication through fashion. Starting from a personal project of artistic research, workshop themes were developed for the students of the Fashion Design Department of the National University of Arts Bucharest.

The students were trained step by step in a series of unconventional experiments to create garments that fit into the contemporary artistic area. It was researched, shared, collaborated, absorbed and analyzed in order to achieve results directed and adapted to each student. Thus the resulting clothing collections (*Blue Consensual, The Shape of Blue, Mare Nostrum*) are as similar, due to their specific marine theme, as different they are by the creative approach of each case.

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This exercise has fundamentally contributed to the development of the students' creativity, ensuring them an integration in this intensely publicized field throughout the globe and with a great addressability to the young generation and not only - Fashion.

Keywords: fashion; creative experiment; marine theme; communication.

Biodata



Alina Gurguță, lecturer PhD. at National University of Arts Bucharest, Fashion Design Department, graduate the same university, with a MA in Fashion and Costume. She has participated in national and international art projects, conferences and symposiums. Fashion designer, scenographer, stylist, she collaborated with art institutions, theatres, televisions.

Fiscal Instruments to Protect the Business Environment in Times of Pandemic

Daniela HUDELCU¹

Abstract

Starting with the decree of the state of emergency, the business environment in Romania was severely affected in terms of organization and operation. Companies without cash and debts to the state budget, felt the interruption/suspension of the activity acutely, even within a legislation granting fiscal facilities, pre-existing the establishment of the state of emergency. The speed with which things evolved, viewed in the economy as a whole, normative acts regarding some fiscal-budgetary measures and the behavior of the business environment determines even today a careful analysis of the future situation of all factors involved in economic development. This article aims to draw attention, the effectiveness of those fiscal protection instruments with immediate applicability to large companies, given that the economic impact on small and medium-sized companies was felt more strongly, according to legal regulations.

Keywords: business environment; entrepreneur; fiscal facilities; fiscal instrument; pandemic.

Acknowledgement

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Emotion and Personal Needs and Their Impact on the Social Acceptability of ART's and Related Biotechnologies in the Postmodern Post-Secular Society

Alexandra HUIDU¹, Antonio SANDU²

Abstract

We see necessity as a psychological, biological, social personal need to have a child, to acquire parental status, possibly under certain conditions, such as, for example, a child of a certain sex or with certain genetic traits. Personal need is likely to influence the way individuals relate to certain circumstances. We see emotions as a catalyst for increasing interest in innovative medical technologies, given that increased interest in these technologies leads to an increase in social awareness, the three correlated elements (interest, emotions and awareness) favoring ethical reflections on which technologies are or are not acceptable. The study aims to measure the influence that emotions and personal needs have on the degree of social acceptance of assisted reproductive technologies and the biotechnologies associated with ART's, by presenting a quantitative empirical study conducted at national level in Romania, after applying a questionnaire on a sample of 785 participants, for a confidence level of the study of 99% and a margin of error of $\pm 4\%$. The study verifies how the degree of acceptability

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changes depending on how participants relate to these innovative medical technologies only at a principal level, then taking into account their emotional involvement in the reproductive problem of a person who is part of their close group of friends and family and, finally, when the medical problem is a personal one, which concerns them directly and which can be overcome by using these techniques. The conclusions of the study are that affectivity and personal needs influence the ethical decision regarding the acceptability of ART and related biotechnologies.

Keywords: emotion; personal need; social acceptability; assisted reproductive technologies; biotechnologies

Biodata



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include ethics, bioethics, sociology, social work and social philosophy, public administration. The original contributions of the author's scientific activities start from the social construction of reality and social constructionism as seen from a semiological perspective. He analyses the social construction of reality by developing his very own version of social constructionism operating at the crossroad between the social-constructionist paradigm and the theory of communicative action. He studied the interpretative adrift of ethical concepts such as ethical acceptability and ethical values. He also conducted research in autonomy and informed consent in medical ethics and public health ethics. He is also interested in transhuman and posthuman changes in human condition due to the virtualisation of social space. He is the author of the book: *Bioethics in Crisis or the Crisis of Bioethics? An Anthropology of Pandemic in Medicalised Society*, published by Lumen Publishing House. He also authored *Social Construction of Reality as Communicative action*, published at Cambridge Scholar Publishing (2016), and also *Social Work Practice: Research Techniques and Intervention Models*, *Appreciative Ethics: A Constructionist Version of Ethics* and *Social-Constructionist Epistemology: A Transmodern Overview*. The last three books have been published by Lap Lambert between 2012 and 2013. He is main editor of the books *Ethical Issues in Social Work Practice* and *Ethics in Research Practice and Innovation* published by IGI Global between 2018-2019. He has published more than 100 papers in scientific journals, among which 45 are WoS indexed, with H factor 10. He has also authored more than 20 volumes in Romanian and English language.

Social Awareness as a Condition for Reaching Social Acceptability of Assisted Reproductive Technologies

Alexandra HUIDU ¹

Abstract

Understanding the technology that makes it possible to give birth to a child through assisted reproductive techniques requires a fairly high level of knowledge, and given that the bioethical and medical literature have not yet provided stable constructs to name the new technological realities, these complications of family relationships, beyond a conceptual confusion, lead to social confusion, aspects likely to deepen the cultural shock that medical innovation brings socially and to force individuals, under the impulse of this shock, to reject new realities. From this perspective, awareness is very important for overcoming cultural shock and achieving social acceptability of assisted reproductive techniques. Awareness implies both the fact that a person knows about the existence of a technology and the fact that he or she has theoretical knowledge about that technology, but also that they are aware of the practical, moral, ethical, religious, social implications of that technology. Social awareness adds to these the awareness of the issue encompassed on the public agenda and the understanding of the social implications posed by promoting such issues by various interest groups. The paper proposes a division of social awareness into superficial, medium, deep and false awareness. We will analyze the characteristics of each type

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of awareness and its implications on the process of forming social acceptability.

Keywords: social awareness; social acceptability; types of awareness; assisted reproductive technologies

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A Supply Perspective on Romanian Export Competitiveness

Mihaela IFRIM¹, Raluca Irina CLIPA², Anca Elena LUNGU³

Abstract

The competitive advantages are usually linked to the national matrix described by Michael Porter and seen as the base for companies operating on foreign markets. On the other hand, export competitiveness is based on the productivity, openness and adaptability of the national economy. The supply-side measures are often found in the national remedy recipe to boost productivity and competitiveness. The reverse should be, also, valid. The supply-side shocks on domestic market can affect the exports competitiveness, just as much as the demand-side shocks from foreign markets. If the increase of the current account deficit is studied mainly in terms of increased labour costs and increased imports, an analysis in terms of the competitiveness of Romanian exports is based, mainly, on their ability to fulfil the foreign demand. In a narrow sense, competitiveness is linked to the ability to sell on the global market (OECD) and most studies analyse exports in the light of exchange rate developments and fluctuations in foreign demand. However, the collapse of economic activities in recent months represents a supply-side shock, which has contracted Romanian exports of goods. The new context allows us to extend the perspectives on competitiveness. The aim of our study is to analyse the competitiveness of Romanian exports from the supply side and trying to estimate

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the effects of the economic measures in the context of the current pandemic. In order to achieve our goal, we used a statistic regression, based on the export data provided by INSSE and the OECD indicator for measuring competitiveness.

Keywords: Export competitiveness; supply shock; lockdown.

Biodata



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aglomerare și competitivitatea regională, Editura Universității „Alexandru Ioan Cuza”, Iași, 2016; *Youth Unemployment Among EU Countries – A Challenge for Sustainable Growth and Social Cohesion*, Transformations in Business & Economics, Vol. 17, No 2B (44B), 2013, 42-59; *Institutional Determinants of Shadow Economy in EU Countries: A Panel Data Analysis*, Transformation in Business & Economics, Vol. 13, no. 3C (33C), 2014, 483-495.



Anca Elena Lungu is PhD student at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași (Romania). She is interested in Entrepreneurship, International Trade and Austrian School of Economics. The most relevant publications are: *Entrepreneurship Under Socialism: The Case of Former Soviet*

Economies, *Libertas: Segunda Época*, vol. 5 (1), Buenos Aires, <http://www.journallibertat.com/volumen-5-numero-1.html>, ISSN: 2524-9312 (online), *The Entrepreneur in Economic Dynamism: A Comparative Analysis Proposal* (2020), *Revista de Studii si Cercetări Economice: Virgil Madgearu*, Studies and Research Virgil Madgearu, 13(1), pp.45-60, doi: 10.24193/RVM.2020.13.51.

Pandemic: When the Invisible Makes the Law of the Visible

Ionuț ISAC¹

Abstract

Despite not being obvious since the beginning, the Covid-19 pandemic has painfully imposed an odd principle for the whole mankind; in fact, a new „law” (in the broadest meaning possible) emerged with the struggle against a microorganism (i.e. the virus) that nobody can see. The outcome is nonetheless considerable: some exceptional measures were taken by the national authorities (e.g. the state of emergency and emergency laws) with the purpose of containing the spreading of the disease, leading to dramatic changes of the social reality: the diminishment of free circulation across borders, the loss of many jobs, many healthy people compelled to stay at home etc. The entanglements of the issue in time caused fear, frustration and resentment everywhere. Our view is that during the time of late modernity, the humankind has never been confronted at its largest scale (planetary) with such considerable danger, concentrated in itself at the smallest scale possible. We believe that, being given the impossibility for all the people – due to both scientific and practical reasons – to control and interpret the biological research works, it is likely that the future scenarios of the situation will depend much more on the individuals' and communities' good will to comply with the measures taken by authorities than on the pure scientific truth. Thus, different from its previous situation, the humankind enters, maybe for a long time from now on, the new era of the „law” which is not

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originated just in the minds of gods, heroes or state leaders, but is solely enabled by the existence of some invisible and evil microorganisms.

Keywords: pandemic; invisible; law; disease; change.

Biodata

Ionuț Isac is Senior Researcher at the „George Barițiu” Institute of History, Romanian Academy, Cluj-Napoca Branch. His degrees are from „Babeș-Bolyai” University in Cluj-Napoca, Department of History and Philosophy, and he has attended conferences in the Republic of Moldova, Germany, France, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA and other countries. His main fields of specialisation are history of philosophy, epistemology and theory of education. He researched particularly on the connections between the Romanian philosophy and Central-/ East-European philosophy. He has published extensively on modern and contemporary philosophy. His current research project is focused on the phenomenon of morality as seen in the contemporary philosophical thought.

Traditions and Technologies: A Change in the Practice of Orthodox Worship During COVID-Pandemic: The Case of the St. Elias Church of Krasnodar (Russia)

Irina KUZNETSOVA¹

Abstract

With the first cases of COVID-19 in the Krasnodar Krai (Region), the regional administration (following the Federal Service for Supervision of Consumer Rights Protection and Human Well-Being) put forward a number of requirements for organizations aimed at preventing the spread of the virus. Based on these requirements, the Russian Orthodox Church made decisions on changing the practice of worship for the pandemic period.

With an increase in the number of COVID-cases in the region, severe restrictions on citizen's movements were imposed and, in particular, a ban on attendance of worship by parishioners who did not participate in the organization of worship. The diocesan administration recommended to organize internet transmission of divine services. After weakening the isolation regime, parishioners got the opportunity to be present in the courtyard of the church during the service, without being able to go inside the edifice. In the parishes, two forms of organization of worship have developed: the installation of a temporary altar table in the courtyard and the live, online transmission of the inside service to the outdoor audience.

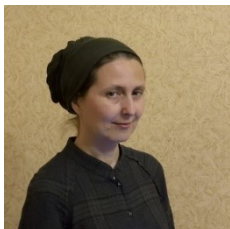
Changing the familiar space of joint worship, as well as the introduction of sanitary norms led to a rethinking of the

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worship traditions. The author organized online broadcasts of divine services and had the opportunity of participant observation during the entire isolation period. The report will describe the changes that have occurred, the principles of organizing online worship and worship in the courtyard of the church, as well as the reaction of parishioners to these changes.

Keywords: COVID-19; Orthodoxy; prayer; Russian Orthodox Church; worship.

Biodata



Irina Kuznetsova is a Senior Researcher at the Research Centre for Traditional Culture at the Kuban Cossack Choir. In the field of scientific interests, there are traditional religious ideas of the Orthodox population of the Kuban, ideas about death and posthumous determination, customs and rituals associated with the funeral and commemoration of the dead. Over the past five years, Irina is a parishioner of the St. Elias Church of Krasnodar, as well as the head of the press service and photographer of this parish.

Access to Education, Social Barrier Regarding the Integration of Children in the Romanian Education System

Mirela Liliana LAZĂR (MUNTEANU)¹

Abstract

The study outlines an analysis of the Romanian education system, which is continuously challenged in terms of its functioning and evolution. Access to education is ensured without social and material discrimination, without differences based on nationality, religion, ethnicity, sex or political choice. The reform on the priorities for solving the current problems in education from Romania aims to promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all categories of people, intended to combat discrimination. Education is the starting point for human and national development and should be seen as a development process. Also, the access to education from an early age has a positive impact on the child's integration into school community.

To ensure the access to education, in terms of decision-making institutions, the school must implement different policies for disadvantaged social categories.

Such barriers contribute to diminishing access to education, and their identification depends on the management of school and community resources. Access to education and the inclusion of children in compulsory education depend on the connection of inclusive culture, policy and practices.

Education is an agent of continuous change that includes alternatives in the development of human behavior, allowing integration into society. The path of education towards social

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behavior and self-respect eliminates the deterioration of values in the society, values that develop both the core of educational targets and goals.

Keywords: access to education; social barrier; integration; inclusive culture; discrimination.

Biodata

My name is Mirela Munteanu and I have been a kindergarten teacher for 25 years. At the moment I'm a first year doctoral student, specialised in Sociology at The University of Oradea. I have always been passionate about the human nature, the social development and the integration of human values into the today's society. As a result, during this period of time, I tried to focus on publishing a vast amount of materials and to do research for a better understanding of the educational inequalities.

A Contextualization of Classical Moral Sentimentalism

Rarița MIHAIL¹

Abstract

Moral sentimentalism can be defined as the philosophical theory according to which emotions are the source of our value judgements, in general, and of our moral judgements, in particular. It follows that, from a historical and conceptual point of view, moral sentimentalism has emerged and developed in opposition to moral rationalism, according to which reason allows us to formulate and understand value judgments from a psychological point of view and is also the source of our axiological knowledge from an epistemic point of view. In this article we present the theoretical issues related to the sentimentalist approach to morality and evaluative judgments, starting from the diverse theories of the classical representatives of sentimentalism, Shaftesbury, Hutcheson, Hume and Smith, and especially the three theses they defended: psychological perspective, the theory of moral sense and the theory of moral feelings. I also argue that the first moral sentimentalism emerged from the confrontation of three distinct aporia: the first aporia refers to the conceptualization of emotions and emotional states; the second deals with the possibility of axiological knowledge; and the third refers to the nature and existence of values. Finally, we are interested in the birth of sentimentalism in order to highlight a series of difficulties inherent in this theoretical approach and which we find today in contemporary moral sentimentalism. The aim is to highlight the conceptual and argumentative tensions that were at the heart of sentimentalism at its emergence.

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Keywords: Sentimentalism; rationalism; emotions; motivations; morality.

Biodata



Rarita MIHAIL is Associate Professor at the Department of History, Philosophy and Sociology, Faculty of History, Philosophy and Theology – „Dunărea de Jos” University of Galati. She participated in National and International Conferences in the fields of philosophy, sociology, geopolitics and she has published over 30 scientific articles in edited volumes and journals. In 2017 she published the book *Dominatie si alienare. O istorie recentă a înstrăinării umane*. Her area of interest is the human condition from the perspectives of social philosophy and socio-anthropology.

Religious and Cultural Coping Strategies Within Transnational Mixed Families in the Context of the Covid-19 Pandemic

Akvilė MOTUZAITĖ¹

Abstract

This paper addresses the religious and cultural strategies used to negotiate celebrations and rituals within urban Finnish-Lithuanian and Greek-Lithuanian families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since most of the mixed marriages in the chosen countries involve Lithuanian females, the topic will be approached, from the Lithuanian women's perspective.

Three principle strategies (referring to particular cultural maneuvers, which also have certain social connotations) can be identified in the mixed family's life:

1. Cosmopolitan strategies;
2. Integrating strategies;
3. Diversifying strategies.

These strategies represent ways of constantly reconstructing cultural and religious identity from the foreign woman's perspective while building or reshaping ties with their native homeland and local sociocultural life of her husband's country. The cultural strategies used define transnational channels, which are created or applied by the woman when transferring her 'own' cultural elements and building connections between different religious cultural spaces.

Foreign woman combine various strategies concerning different cultural elements of mixed family life in a transnational context and provide options of choice, which are directed by individual priorities, family involvement, present social, cultural, economic resources and

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accessibility. These forms may change with changes in social circumstances, new experiences and shifting attitudes. Some forms of the transnational flows can be temporary limited by, for instance, nationally or internationally announced quarantine due to the COVID-19 crisis. Quarantine regulations limited travel, for a period of time, not only between states, but within the countries as well. Under these circumstances, some mixed families intentionally or by coincidence could strengthen some cultural connections while staying in quarantine with limited or restricted movement.

Keywords: Transnationalism; mixed marriage; Covid-19 quarantine.

Acknowledgement

The paper is part of the author's ongoing PhD thesis.

Biodata



Ms Akvilė Motuzaitė is currently a middle school teacher in Lithuania, while pursuing her PhD studies in European Ethnology at the University of Turku (Finland). As a partner in a mixed family, she has direct experience with the difficulties encountered by transnational families during the Covid-19 confinement.

Her scientific interests encompass mixed marriage, transnationalism and cultural identities.

Key Factors Associated with School Failure Related to Children's Educational History

Mirabela MURG¹

Abstract

In the sociology of education, school failure is often defined by reference to school success. The link between social and family disadvantage and school failure has been studied and is the subject of studies and research, both theoretically and empirically. Beyond the variety of views expressed, in the literature there is a broad consensus that the family environment - in addition to the school environment and individual characteristics of students - is one of the three key factors associated with school failure. Between social exclusion and poor educational success are the factors associated with school failure: precarious household economic conditions; lack of mother in the household; jobs, living space, residence in rural areas, parents with a low level of education; young parents; parents farmers or self-employed, the high number of family members, the presence of at least one child under 5 years of age etc. Several scientific studies show that certain variables related to the family environment are very important when analysing situations of school failure. Studies also show that the socio-economic status of the family, measured by the level of education of parents, their occupation and income, has a significant influence on school results. The factors that most influence school performance and success are related to the social, economic and cultural situation of the family, the value orientation offered within the family also having a significant role in influencing the educational trajectories of children.

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Keywords: school failure; socio-economic status; social exclusion; family environment; disadvantaged children.

Biodata



Teacher in preschool education at the German Theoretical High School "Fr.Schiller" Kindergarten with extended program no. 31 Oradea Teaching degree I

Seniority in education: 17 years

In the last 10 years, 7 books have been published (methodological guides, special didactics, specialized magazines, didactic support, auxiliary didactics) between the care of 5 as sole author and two as co-author and.

I want to continue to evolve professionally and understand the cause of school failure. I am worried that I had the opportunity to meet families with children who did not consider school so important, they have as a limited belief that "We should not all be bosses! And without school you can work!

"Which further increases the school failure in Romania and at the same time affects the evolution of society both economically and socially. I studied through different courses, the importance of the family in children's lives, the importance of example and school, the connection between family and school, which makes me go further to research this topic

Building Education According to Hegelian Conception as a Means for Solving Problems Generated by Migration Processes, in the Long Run

Aslanbek NAZIEV¹

Abstract

In the context of globalization, the intensity of migration processes increases every year, which creates serious difficulties both for migrants themselves and for the indigenous population. The problem of minimizing migration costs arises. For solving urgent problems, urgent measures needed. But in the long run, an essential role in solving this problem is assigned to education. However, not every understanding of the phenomenon is suitable for such a purpose.

Education traditionally understands as the process of continuous transmission from previous generations to the subsequent socially significant experience. With the naked eye is seen the unfitness of such an approach to education for solving the problems we consider. The understanding of socially significant is different in different social groups, and the education built on this basis will inevitably emphasize these differences. It is necessary such a definition, which not separates but unifies. Fortunately, such a definition already exists, although it is "well-forgotten." This definition was discovered by Hegel in 1808-1811 and introduced in work "Philosophical Propaedeutics" (published in 1840). Hegel defines education as an ascent to universal human nature. The unifying character of the cited definition is evident. In his full paper, the author proposes to consider in detail the traditional definition of education with its shortcomings, to

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reveal the true meaning of the Hegelian definition, and to substantiate its advantages over the traditional definition in many aspects, mainly in connection with the above problems.

Keywords: Migration processes; education; Hegelian definition;

Biodata



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Computer Science.

Achievements

Generalized the *Gelfand-Kolmogorov Duality* from the category of all compact topological spaces to the category of all separated locally compact topological spaces;
Generalized the *Tannaka-Krein Duality* from the category of all compact topological groups to the category of all separated locally compact topological groups;
Formulated and comprehensively substantiated *The Conception of Humanitarian Oriented Mathematics Teaching* for all levels of education;
Prepared 11 Ph. D. students successfully defended their theses on the methodology of mathematics teaching.

Mathematics Teaching Bringing the Brain in Order

Aslanbek NAZIEV¹

Abstract

The Great Russian scientist Mikhailo Lomonosov is credited with the words: "Mathematics must then be taught that it brings the brain in order." The author was unable to establish when and where Lomonosov expressed this idea. On the Internet, too, no one was able to indicate this. Most agreed that it was a fake. Moreover, precisely in this form, the idea expressed is merely incorrect. Mathematics, in itself, does not bring anyone's mind into order. This is evident at least from the fact that mathematics exists for about four thousand years, and at all times, there were immeasurably more disordered brains than ordered ones. It is not mathematics that leads the brain into order, but the teaching of mathematics, and, by no means, every teaching. Therefore, we propose to clarify the analyzed phrase as follows: "Mathematics should then be taught, that this, with proper teaching, will put the brain in order." What this proper teaching of mathematics should be and how it can put the brain in order — these issues will be considered in my full paper with a sufficient amount of examples.

Keywords: Mathematics; teaching mathematics; Lomonosov; brain; ordered brain;

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The Conception of Investigation Oriented Mathematics Teaching

Aslanbek NAZIEV¹

Abstract

In 1860, Herbert Spencer wrote in his remarkable book "Education: Intellectual, Moral, and Physical":

"In education, the process of self-development should be encouraged to the uttermost. Children should be led to make their own investigations and to draw their own inferences. They should be told as little as possible and induced to discover as much as possible."

What Spencer said about children is true also for other learners (and to others, that is, to adult, to even more extent). Taking this remark into account, we deduce from Spencer's statement:

"To teach means to induce the learners systematically to their own discoveries."

Now, turn to mathematics. At the very beginning of the many-volumed treatise "Elémentes de mathématiques," its authors wrote:

"Since the Greeks, who says 'mathematics' says 'proof'." (N. Bourbaki)

Adopting this statement as the definition of mathematics, we come to the following assertion:

"To teach mathematics means to induce the learners systematically to the discovery of their own proofs."

In our paper, we subject this assertion to all-rounded consideration. In particular, we show that teaching

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mathematics following this conception is multidimensional mathematics teaching.

Keywords: Mathematics; education; teaching; investigation; multidimensional education;

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Another Dimension of Inequality in Education - Digital Inequalities

Gabriela NEAGU¹

Abstract

The priority objective of the authorities in the context of the current health crisis is to maintain a balance between protecting the health of the population and the functioning of social systems as close as possible to normal. Regarding the educational system, the closure of educational institutions is the measure by which the health of students and teachers is protected and the relocation of educational activity online is part of the measures to "normalize" the functionality of the system. The decision taken by the authorities on how to carry out educational activity in times of crisis is a compromise that does not solve one of the major problems of our education system: the inability to use successfully modern technology in the educational process.

Objective: Analysis of digital inequalities in the Romanian education system.

Methodology: To analyze this type of inequality we will use a quantitative methodology and we will analyze the databases PISA 2018 and ISCWeB 2017.

Conclusions: One of the most important conclusions of the data analysis is that both the results of PISA 2108 and other international research, warned the Romanian authorities that our education system is severely deficient in terms of digital infrastructure, educational software and the digital skills of students and teachers. Another conclusion is that, in Romania, access to modern technology, digital skills have a

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direct relationship with socio-economic, family, cultural inequalities, etc. from different categories of population.

Keywords: digital inequalities; digital skills; PISA; quality of education.

Biodata

Gabriela Neagu

(<http://www.iccv.ro/en/staff/researchers/gabriela-neagu-en/>) studied the science of education at "Al. I. Cuza" Iasi University and she completed his PhD in Sociology with a thesis on sociology of education at Bucharest University. She is senior researcher II with the Research Institute for the Quality of life, Romanian Academy.

Publications (selections): *Şanse de acces la educaţie în societatea românească actuală*, 2011, Editura Lumen, Iaşi; *Effectiveness and/or equity in the education system in Romania. A comparative analysis*, 2014, Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences vol 5(22):493-503; *Determinants Factors of Adult Participation in Education*, 2014, Procedia – Social and Behavioral.

The Experience of the Social Workers during the State of Emergency due to COVID-19 Pandemic

Roxana NECULA¹

Abstract:

Within March - May 2020, in Romania was established a state of emergency due to COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Military Ordinance no.8/2020, the working staff from the residential centers was placed into preventive isolation at the operational place, in series of 14 days followed by precautionary isolation at home. During all this time, the specialists have worked for 12 h/day and had a 12 h period of respite, which they've spent inside the centre.

The professional and personal experiences of the social workers and the specialists working in the social field, employed in the residential centers from the public and private sector will be presented in this paper.

As social worker and head of Centrul de Servicii Sociale pentru Persoane Adulte Aflate în Dificultate [Social Services Center for Adults in Difficulty] and president of Colegiul Național al Asistenților Sociali din România, Sucursala Teritorială Iași, [National College of Social Workers from Romania, Iași Subsidiary] I have experienced these moments together with my colleagues and I think that they were unique experiences.

We have applied interviews to the social workers and the specialists from the social field and we have highlighted: how they felt, professionally and personally, during their preventive isolation at their workplace, how they have

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intervened, proficiently, in their activities with the beneficiaries, how were the interactions with the family members, if the isolation was considered useful, etc.

Keywords: social workers, state of emergency, COVID-19, professional and personal experiences.

Biodata



Roxana NECULA

2013 – present: President of the National College of Social Workers from Romania, Iași Subsidiary;

2010 – present: Associated Professor at „Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University from Iași, Faculty of Philosophy and Social-Political Sciences; Faculty of Economics and

Business Administration; Faculty of Romano-Catholic Theology.

2000 – present: Social-worker at the Private Practice Necula I. Magdalena Roxana.

With a PhD in sociology she has graduated from „Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University from Iași, Faculty of Orthodox Theology, Department Social Work.

Currently she is head of Social Services Center for Adults in Difficulty within General Directorate of Social Work and Child Protection from Iași.

Areas of interest: social work, sociology and ethics. She attended and organized several national and international conferences and published books and articles in different reviewed specialized journals.

The Power of the Patient in Relation to Nurse's Identity Development

Mihaela Cătălina NECULAU¹

Abstract

Objectives: to understand the dynamic of the power in patient - future nurse relationship

Stories are constructing our reality, or the reality is constructing our stories? Considering the clinical practice of future nurses and the stories they are carrying with them, there are some important aspects which revealed an interesting position of the future nurses in relation to their patients. If it was expected to find that the doctors, experienced nurses or teachers have an important influence on the future nurse's behaviour, because of the process of learning, how can we explain this happening with the patients? Trying to get to what Charmaz (2006) was calling preferred identity it seems like the students are placing their patients in the position of power in the future nurse-patient relationship, and that can lead their actions in order to be validated as nurses. If social constructionism is about negotiating our sense of reality, and social constructivism is about the way a person understands reality through social interaction, the question is about what relationship stories we pick up from our reality and how they contribute to the way we give sense to reality. What makes us pick up some stories and forget others? In the professional area of the future nurses there seems to be some significant relationship stories which can be linked to preferred identities. These preferred identities might be linked to some identity examples, which are still modelling from inside the person's behaviour. It can be what White (1991) calls the modern power, which is about

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an inner voice influencing us, even if the person or the social context is not visible anymore? So, what kind of relationship can contribute to social construction of the professional identity in future nurses, or can we ask in what way the relationships can influence us in understanding our professional identity?

Keywords: preferred identity; professional relationships; professional identity; network identity.

Biodata

Cătălina Neculau works as a scientific secretary at OAMGAMR and worked as nurse for 25 years. She graduated Psychology (2004) and a master's in social sciences (2006), and she works as a teacher in a postsecondary school for future nurses since 2011. Trying to become a therapist in narrative approach she met Rita Charon's work in medicine narrative. Together with some colleagues she participated to a Narrative Medicine program with residents doctors in diabetes and obstetrics and then she started to run this program with future nurses since 2011. Scientific activity: 4th author in the article Life Experiences of abused Elderly in Geriatric Care in Iași, Romania. A Qualitative study, in Revista Românească pentru Educație Multidimensională, în 2016; 2nd author in the article From Narrative Medicine to Appreciative Medicine, in Archiv Euromedica 8(1) 2018.

Exploring Undergraduates' Fake News Consumption Using Eye-Tracking

Daniel-Rareş OBADĂ¹

Abstract

The aim of this paper is to explore the undergraduates' fake news consumption in the online environment using eye-tracking technology. Fake news is not a new phenomenon, but the scale of the problem has grown exponentially in the last years. Online fake news can be defined as false, inaccurate, or misleading information presented as news (i.e., specially designed to be confused with real news) and shared online to deceive the audience in order to influence their cognition, attitude, and behavior regarding a specific event/person/brand (Obadă, 2019). Research about news consumption indicates new trends, especially among younger audiences, such as students. In this study, we were specifically interested in objectively monitoring when, where, and what individuals look at while reading news on a news website. We ran an experiment with 43 students which voluntarily accepted to take part in the research and were rewarded with credits for their practice. The GazePoint GP3 eye-tracker was used to capture participants' eye movements. Eye-tracking data was analyzed using GazePoint Analysis Professional Edition. We created 3 AOI (i.e., headline, body and disclaimer), and computed the time to first fixation, average fixation, time viewed, number of revisits, and number of average revisit metrics. The results of our study highlight that participants read the fake news (title and body), but didn't read the disclaimer section, in which the publisher mentioned that the presented information

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could be inaccurate or false. The main contribution of our study consists of a better understanding of undergraduates' fake news consumption.

Keywords: Fake news; media consumption; eye-tracking; social media; brand.

Biodata



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Management, PR in NGOs, Copywriting in PR & Advertising and Political Communication. Daniel-Rareș OBADĂ does research in Public Relations, Advertising, Marketing Communication and Media. His recently published work includes a book, journal and conference proceedings articles on the Flow State, Fake News, Emotions, and Radio Audience Measurement. He is a member of The Romanian Press History Association (ARIP) and The European Marketing Academy (EMAC).

Acknowledgement

This work was supported by a grant of the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iasi, within the Research Grants program, Grant UAIC, code GI-UAIC-2018-09. Research Project: THE ROLE OF FLOW IN SHARING FAKE NEWS ABOUT BRANDS ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

The Informal Society: Creating an Alternative Economy Through Informal Exchanges and Criminal Activities During Communism. An Institutional Perspective

Vlad ONACIU¹

Abstract

Shortage has remained one of the most memorable images of Romanian communism, characterizing its nearly five decades of existence. We will look at how people learnt to overcome it by creating original strategies, based on informal exchanges, thus constructing an alternative economy. Firstly, our research has focused on the criminal nature of these exploits, which often involved stealing from the workplace, embezzling, abuse of position, and smuggling. We identified such activities in official documents and looked at how they were defined by the period's legislation. We also tried to understand how despite the dangers people came to trust each other and co-operated in small networks based on personal relations. Secondly, we analysed the measures taken by the regime, such as surveillance and sting operations. These were aimed at reducing the extent of the alternative economy, which was hindering the official one. They went as far as infiltrating queues so as to gather information on the state of mind of people.

Keywords: shortage; informal exchange; alternative economy; surveillance; sting operation .

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Biodata

I am a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Babes-Bolyai University and an Associate Lecturer at the Faculty of History and Philosophy, part of the Department of International Studies and Contemporary History at the same university. My research interests have focused on the history of communism, especially society and the economy, international relations, civilizational studies, and conflict studies. In the past years I have taught seminars on Security Policies after the Cold War and Post-War Comparative Political Regimes. I have also been involved in the organization of the yearly Social Policies under Romanian Communism autumn school in Sighetu Marmatiei.

Acknowledgement

Writing this paper was possible due to financial support provided by „Entrepreneurial Education and Professional Counseling for Social and Human Sciences PhD and Postdoctoral Researchers to ensure knowledge transfer” Project, co-financed from European Social Fund through Human Capital Programme (ATRiUM, POCU/380/6/13/123343).

Some Reflections on Transparency as the First Economic Disinfectant

Raluca ONUFREICIUC¹

Abstract

Better access to information and administrative transparency are known for their popularity in recent years. Open data portals and transparency index have been slowly enabling public participation together with citizens' engagement and commitment.

From a business and economical perspective, these two principles are closely related to fairness promotion and the empowerment of a smarter and more informed choice. The following paper analysis how the lack of transparency instruments and several transparency measures taken especially in crisis times can affect public trust and also which are the possible solutions community actors such as business sector can contribute with.

Keywords: transparency; economic challenges; public trust; digital platforms; civic engagement

Biodata

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She is actively involved in several civic projects regarding good governance, transparency and active citizenship and in 2017 she participated in Professional Fellows Program (PFP)

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- a global exchange program designed to promote mutual understanding, enhance leadership and professional skills between mid-level emerging leaders from foreign countries and the United States, financed by U.S. State Department (18th of April-9th of June 2017). Her current research focuses on the level of EU administrative transparency (study case: Romania and Spain).

Acknowledgements

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Social Responsibility in Romanian Advertising during State of Emergency

Iasmina PETROVICI¹, Simona BADER², Corina SÎRB³

Abstract

In what way were influenced the messages conveyed in Romanian advertisements by the state of emergency declared due to COVID-19 pandemic? What kind of visual and textual messages did advertisements deliver to the target audience in this unique social context? Were there any specifics regarding their narrative or visuals? Based on the aforementioned questions, our hypothesis is that some Romanian advertisements that were distributed during the state of emergency had a social responsibility message, which is rather uncommon in commercials.

The first part of our study will underline the theoretical framework of this problem: defining and explaining social responsibility and the implications of cause-related marketing.

The second part of the study will present our research. Its aim is to conduct a qualitative analysis of the advertising discourse from pragmatic, rhetoric and semiotic perspectives. The corpus of our research consists of several advertisements and advertising campaigns that were most visible in the public sphere during the state of emergency, both online and offline. We will start by identifying the visual elements, narrative techniques and argumentative

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strategies, explaining the way they function as an instrument to increase social responsibility. We will approach the message of the advertisements from a speech acts theory point of view, then undergo a process of identifying the argumentative tactics that are being used and, finally, we will conduct a semiotic analysis.

In the end, we will underline a series of conclusions regarding the narrative and the visual specifics of the analysed contents and we will highlight some ethical aspects of the advertisements.

Keywords: advertising; advertisements; social responsibility; cause-related marketing; speech acts; visual communication.

Biodata

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Simona Bader currently works as Professor Lecturer of Communication, Mass Media and Public Relations at Faculty of Political Science, Philosophy and Communication Science at the West University of Timisoara (Romania). She accomplished her PhD at West University of Timisoara in 2014 with a thesis about theatre in Timiș cultural press. Her main research interests include communication, journalism, public relations, press survey and continuous education. She published several papers in Romanian and international communication journals (*Applied Social Sciences*, *Communication Studies*, *Revista Română de Jurnalism și*

Comunicare, Journal of Romanian Literary Studies, etc) and participated in many international and national conferences. She is the author of the book *Arta spectacolului în presa culturală timișeană*.

Corina Sîrb currently works as an Assistant Professor at the West University of Timisoara, Faculty of Political Sciences, Philosophy and Communication Sciences, Romania. Degrees: M.A in Mass-media and public relations; PhD in *Philosophy (with a thesis on philosophy of language and social ontology)*; B.S. in *Communication and Public Relations*. She has published book chapters and articles in the field of communication sciences, public relations and media studies.

Contextualizing the Effects of the Hearing Disability of the Child Belonging to the Deaf Community

Mirela Octavia PLEȘ¹

Abstract

The issue of the child's hearing disability in a family context cannot be approached outside the constitutive dimensions of the identity of the deaf culture, which is built in relation to the world of the hearers. All of these are challenges for the family of the hearing-impaired child. New directions of research are outlined towards the analysis of the linguistic identity assumed by both the family and the deaf child, and therefore of their way of belonging to the community.

The collective recognition of the deaf community in the Romanian space offers legitimacy to the relevant sociological perspectives in relation to the social problem given by the hearing disability.

People with hearing impairments form a community that emphasizes that a person's inability to hear and use oral language is a cultural phenomenon. In the presence of the inability to use the conventional language of hearing people, deaf people use a conceptual language, sign language. From a normative social perspective, people with hearing impairment are considered disabled by hearing people. Likewise, a hearing person who does not know sign language, so does not have the ability to communicate with a deaf person, experiences a disability. Disability is a perspective issue, related to environmental factors and social perception.

It turns out that the elements of identity and cultural diversity related to the family socialization of children with hearing

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impairments are a field of study with many ramifications. Can this be an innovative paradigm of the field? The change in mentality could be given by the hearing impairment beyond the medical model in correlation with a multitude of socio-economic and cultural factors that build it.

Keywords: hearing impairment; deaf community; affiliation; sign language.

Biodata



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In the last 10 years, 7 books have been published (methodological guides, special didactics, didactic support, auxiliary didactics) from which 5 as sole author and two as co-author.

I want to continue to evolve professionally. I am concerned about the phenomenon of disability beyond myths and stereotypes. I studied multiple forms of deficiency. The hearing impairment generated to me a more special interest, given the communication aspects. I used sign language to communicate with my students. Thus, an entire culture is discovered, a micro-society less known.

Moral Psychology and the Ideologies' Principle of Independence

Bogdan POPOVENIUC¹

Abstract

In 2020 Romania an anomalous legislative initiative of banning any activities to spread the theory or opinion of gender identity in Romanian education system was issued by the democratic elected Senate. Analyzing the apparent paradox of the public reactions of the academic community based on the reference to the same vague and morally worthy principle of ideological independence, the limits and wrongdoings of contemporary moral psychology are highlighted. Besides the obvious societal (un)covered intolerance and racism, the social responsibility of the scientific community is discussed.

Keywords: gender identity; tolerance; moral psychology; cognitive paradigm

Biodata



Doctor of Philosophy (Philosophy of Science domain), with thesis the „Antinomies mathematical and transcendental and their destiny in the contemporary Philosophy and Science”, he is also licensed in Psychology and has a master in Psychology and Psychosocial Intervention and Psychotherapy. He teaches courses like Introduction to Philosophy, Introduction to Psychology, Social and Cultural Anthropology, Philosophical Anthropology or Political Anthropology. Bogdan Popoveniuc has authored two books

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and two undergraduate courses and published more than 90 scientific articles mostly from an inter-disciplinary and trans-disciplinary perspective in the areas of Philosophy, Anthropology and Psychology.

Who Are We: Limits of Western Rationality

Olga POROSHENKO¹

Abstract

If we don't go deep into scientific definitions and interpretations, then such words as "Self", "Subjectivity", "Internal World" appear to be the same. At least, they all stand for something inside the human, inside the intimate spiritual world that is hidden from curious eyes.

That all would be fine and even congruent with us, like in "macrocosm" if only that internal world was not so fragile. What terrible tragedies do we experience when confronted in minor internal conflicts with others arising from "misunderstanding", "non-inclusion" and "disrespect", not to mention life tragedies, such as "disregard", "solitude" and "self-destruction". "To be or not to be?" that is the question the rational western "I" asks the self. There is only one answer to this question – "to be". And it is not just "to be" it is to exist: to act, to create, to move forward. In one word to be a Subject.

So, western personas, you and I, face an insolvable contradiction: we want to create, as we are subjects, not stupid animals, but postmodernists forbid us. Since it is forbidden to change the external world, there is only one choice: to refute the external world (as old) and turn your gaze into yourself.

Compared to East people, we, people of the West, have limited imagination. In our fantasies or scientific theories, if you wish, we cannot go beyond – over the limit: finite – infinite, knowable - unknowable, immanent - transcendent, profane - sacred, expressible - inexpressible, etc., etc. Thanks to "protestants' ethics" or contrary to it, rational West arrived

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at its last harbour, which it named "Dasein" and that's it. The hole was made in Existence and the ship leaked.

If we freed our mind from pragmatic chains, we would clearly see that sociological problem of self-identification is a more fundamental problem, it is a problem of self-justification of "my I", i.e. a problem of my personal anthropodicy. "Who is he?" is "his" problem, let "him" think of it. I will never understand "who" she/he is, if I don't understand "who" I am.

We need something rational and technologically sound. We are used to living according to the "idea", sample and model. We are the children of paternalist culture. Give us a theory and we will live according to it! Therefore, a western "internal observer" is a sober reflexing "I", the subject of our subjectivity, and the object for it is not "external", but "internal" world and everything that is presented in it: Existence, God, Cosmos, Brahman etc. The external world is an objectivation of the internal one. For the external world the principle of reflection is replaced by the principle of interpretation.

There are a lot of objectifications of the internal world like multiple Atman modes. Objective modes of the human internal world are represented in all spheres of human activity: science, culture, art etc.

The question- What is the meaning of being-Dasein? can be posed only if ontology does not turn into a doctrine of the totally closed existence of entity. A man must understand what he is inside from the very beginning, and this "beginning" lies deeper than his "ontology". "I myself" suggests not only heroism but also loneliness. A man is alone from the beginning and forever. "I am alone" is an axiom and with a greater degree of certainty than "I think".

Solitude is an ontological state that "captures" a person completely: rationally, emotionally, socially, existentially and physically. It is at this "moment of truth" that we realize and experience our self, our final and last "I". Our new Robinson is an authentic subject aware of his uniqueness recognizing

himself and "his" always and everywhere: space, culture, society, God, another person. He does not care whether to return to "civilization" or stay in the wild. His "I" is always "above", "over", "meta", etc. Having realised and accepted our solitude, we become free. Only after going this way, you can allow yourself to "return" to the other "I" s, to society, because now we will not demand from our neighbor that which he could never give away - his "I".

However, the oriental metaphysics is impenetrable to the West. Attempts to search for a "common" language have been made more than once. The entire "esoteric" line of European philosophy from Plato to Heidegger can be called the "technique of translating" oriental metaphysics into the language of European science.

Our western "Universal Spirit" is the same as that of the Indians, i.e. one for all. Therefore, it is up to the East to demonstrate it, and the West - to describe it, to each their own. And there will be "world peace", tolerance and homogeneity!

Keywords: subjectivity; solitude; western rationality; personality; self.

Biodata

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Head of the multi-year all-Russian scientific project: "Theoretical heritage of kasan scientific, philosophical, theological thought in the context of a worldview dialogue".

Head of research projects on a grants by Russian Foundation for Basic Research.

Author of the book "Optimistic Tragedy of Solitude", has more than 30 scientific publications.

Research interests: philosophical and religious anthropology, history of Russian philosophy, psychology of personality.

Teaching disciplines: "Philosophy", "Logical and methodological foundations of scientific and technical activity", "Religion in the modern world", "Philosophy of creative activity".

Author of the syllabus "Philosophical and methodological problems of scientific, technical and design activities".

The Psychology of “Us vs. Them” in the World of Documentaries

Bence PROKOP¹

Abstract

In the early 21st century documentaries started to gain a substantial amount of socio-political influence. This also resulted in an increasing use of the “Us vs. Them” approach when it came to the subject matter and marketing approaches of big budget as well as independent documentaries.

Top grossing documentaries such as Morgan Spurlock’s *Super Size Me* or Michael Moore’s *Fahrenheit 9/11* targeted the social consciousness of individual audience members in a carefully planned and executed marketing campaign.

By analysing “above and below” the line promotional materials in said movies as well as comparing data from previously conducted studies² on utilising social identity theory to create a an “Us vs. Them” communication and marketing strategy.

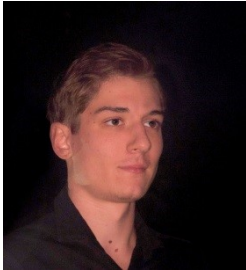
The scope of the research paper (coordinated by PhD. Nicoleta Sălcudean, PhD Habil.) and accompanying presentation is to showcase the process as well as the structure of these powerful marketing tools projected to the documentary niche in order to educate consumers and industry professionals.

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² Ouwerkerk, Jaap W., et al. “When We Enjoy Bad News about Other Groups: A Social Identity Approach to out-Group Schadenfreude.” *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*, vol. 21, no. 1, SAGE Publications Ltd, Jan. 2018, pp. 214–32, doi:10.1177/1368430216663018.

Keywords: Documentary Film; Non-Fiction; Marketing Strategy; "Us vs. Them"; Target Audience; Michael Moore; Morgan Spurlock.

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Previous conferences:
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The Effect of Role Transition on the Mental Health of Romanian Emerging Adults

Sergiu-Lucian RAIU¹

Abstract

Mental health is a very important aspect in the transition of young people to adulthood. In today's highly industrialized, post-industrialized or knowledge societies, more and more young people are achieving role transitions to maturity later on. In this presentation I analyze the extent to which leaving the parental home, employment, involvement in romantic relationships, marriage and parenting that Romanian emerging adults fulfil, later on, have repercussions on mental health. The factors of mental health that I looked at in the case of young people who are going through the period towards maturity are self-esteem, optimism, anxiety and depression. The data come from a group of 854 young people ($M=25.07$ years, $SD=0.46$), who completed an online questionnaire on various aspects of their transition to maturity. Most of the young people in our group, 67.1% left the parental "nest", 87.6% are employed, 60.2% are involved in a romantic relationship, 21.9% are married and 11.8% are parents. Romanian emerging adults involved in romantic relationships and those who are married are less depressed and have a better self-esteem compared to those who are not in a romantic relationship and/or married. Those who have a job have better self-esteem and less anxiety compared to those who do not work.

Keywords: Romanian emerging adulthood; mental health; role transitions; self-esteem; anxiety.

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Biodata



Sergiu-Lucian Raiu, PhD, with eight years of experience in research, postdoctoral researcher in Sociology, he is a young researcher in the social field. His areas of interest are sociology of youth, transition to adulthood and transition from school to work. Also he has worked in applied research projects on topics such as the

relationship of parents left at home with children abroad, followed the path of graduates and their integration into the labor market and intervention projects with Roma children and Roma young people. The most recent intervention project was for children with autism. He managed through advocacy, together with a team of specialists in the field of autism, to mobilize the NGOs in Romania to fight for the rights of children with autism by creating a national coalition of 80 NGOs that proposed a public policy to improve the service system for children with autism.

Acknowledgement

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Easter Online: Producing Spaces, Transgressing Borders

Daria RADCHENKO¹

Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic led to major lockdowns all over the world in 2020. This situation severely limited the possibility of a number of social activities, including religious gatherings. The peak of the epidemic in Russia coincided with the central period in the Orthodox calendar – the last week of Lent and Easter. As the Patriarch blessed “stay-at-home” policies, churches officially closed for everybody but clergy and live streams of services in organized through social media. Believers had to adopt swiftly to a new mode of co-presence (Urry 2002) in church by participating in services online. To do this, they had to make a choice between the places from which live streams were organized, transform the space of their homes to accommodate the sacredness of the event, rethink their own physical location regarding simultaneous presence in their home and “in church”, and manage communications with the priest, fellow parishioners and family members during Easter night. This involved not only formal decoration of homes but also subtle mechanisms of balancing authority within the network of sacred objects, gadgets and people (e.g., home icons were perceived as “more important” than those shown on screen during service; Patriarch’s service could be viewed on a big screen while a co-presence at one’s own parish’s service could be maintained with help of a small smartphone screen, etc). Based on digital ethnography (including participant observation online) and 40 in-depth interviews, the presented

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paper will investigate how believers constructed and reflected the space of Easter service in their homes.

Keywords: Religion; digital ethnography; social media, production of space; media studies.

Biodata



Daria Radchenko (PhD in Cultural Studies, 2005) holds the position of senior researcher at the Russian Academy of National Economy and Public Administration, where she is working on a long-term project on the folklore of social media. She is also the vice-director of the Centre for Urban Anthropology at KB Strelka since 2015, leading the area of digital research. In addition, she has been working in the field of internet folklore and digital anthropology since 2006, with a special interest in the transmission of vernacular texts. She has published over 80 papers on these topics.

Online Learning Strategies in Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv as the Post-Pandemic Outcome

Maryna REBENKO¹, Oksana NIKOLENKO²,
Natalia DORONINA³

Abstract

The lockdown caused by the COVID-19 outbreak mainstreamed distance learning in all educational institutions worldwide and Ukraine in particular. Kyiv University's staff faced the global challenge to teach in the crisis conditions. The university closure made it clear that remote learning demanded implementation of totally new methodologies to cover the needs of students. A quick online survey (60 respondents) resulted in approaching Zoom (44 respondents, 73%) and Google Classroom (31 respondents, 52%) as the most preferable and efficient in providing live learning opportunities. These platforms were actively used by university staff to deliver online teaching. Teachers had to cope up with emerging social and health issues: not to overload students with excessive assignments, prevent them from long-hour staring at screens, reduce the increased level of stress. Against this background, in post-pandemic reality, Kyiv University has applied urgent management practices to alleviate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on both students and staff. On May 25, 2020 the release of the *KNU*

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Education Online platform (<https://view.genial.ly/5ecb71829330ad0d7cd6f2e5/presentation-cifrovij-universitet>) was officially announced. The worked-out platform encompasses the following modes: a student and teacher classroom, a digital library, an electronic teacher record book, a service for students with special educational needs, international student service, online presentations, video courses, online testing service and interactive timetable. From September 1 this year, the *KNU Education Online* platform is about to cover all students and the teaching staff of Kyiv University. The *KNU Education Online* digital platform as a multifunctional school network is a fruitful university decision to work out the strategy beneficial in the long run.

Keywords: online learning; post-pandemic reality; online university platform.

Biodata



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Mrs Rebenko is also engaged in teaching English and working out the exam materials for Ukrainian External Evaluation test-takers. She completed summer school programs on Foreign Language Teaching Development organized by the British Council, American House of Ukraine, IATEFL Ukraine and was also one of the active members of The English Language Fellow Program from 2016 to 2018. Her professional fields of interests are advanced methods of the

English language teaching as a whole and teacher identity development, students' professional motivation improvement techniques and disciplinary literacy strategies implementation and practice in particular.



Oksana Nikolenko, Ph.D in Philology (Germanic Languages), is an Associate Professor of Foreign Languages Department for Mathematical Faculties at Institute of Philology, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine. She currently works out and accomplishes a new strategy and approaches in teaching English at

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She defended dissertation for a Candidate Degree in Philology on theme: "Nicknames in the English language: semantic, structural, social, cultural peculiarities" in 2015. Her scientific interests: onomasiology, semasiology, psycholinguistics, cognitive linguistics and linguistic conceptology, sociolinguistics, teaching methods of foreign languages. She investigates the peculiarities of the nicknames functioning; cognitive mechanisms in the nickname formation; systemic and functional aspects of English nicknames' semantics; neologisms usage; blending (telescoping). She has published articles in a number of Ukrainian and foreign journals, i.e. "Language Mechanisms of English Nicknames' Formation" Lambert Academic Publishing 2017; "Socio-Cultural Factors in the Formation of English Anthroponymic Nominations" in WEB OF SCHOLAR RS GLOBAL 8 (38), VOL.21, 2019.



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Assertiveness of Pre-Service Teachers from a Life Sciences University

Elena Mirela SAMFIRA¹, Ionel SAMFIRA²

Abstract

The undergraduate education represents an important stage when future professionals have the opportunity to understand and learn how important it is to be an assertive person. By being assertive, undergraduates are able to manage stress in their relationships with other individuals they cooperate with (colleagues, teachers, etc.) and to develop better relationships. Teachers' assertiveness represent a desirable interpersonal skill, researches in this area sustaining that it has a positive influence on developing social competences in children. To help pre-service teachers to manage stress related to the teaching profession, it is appropriate to identify their level of assertiveness. This paper examines assertiveness level, being focused on university students enrolled for the teaching career program (n = 284), from an agricultural and veterinary medicine university from western Romania (BUASVM Timisoara) who completed the Rathus Assertiveness Schedule (RAS). Urban respondents reported higher levels of assertiveness than respondents from rural environment did. Males respondents reported higher levels of assertiveness than females did. Students from Faculty of Agriculture reported the highest level of assertiveness and students from Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Faculty of Food Engineering reported the lowest level of assertiveness. From a study programmes perspective, students from Horticulture reported the highest level of assertiveness while

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students from the Animal Husbandry are the least assertive. Implications for the university are discussed.

Keywords: University students; assertiveness; teaching career; faculties; study programmes.

When Academic Freedom Goes Against Political (In)correctness

Antonio SANDU¹

Abstract

The paper starts from a critical analysis of a proposal to amend the Romanian National Education Law, which prohibits in any educational institution - including universities - the exposure in any form of gender identity theory which states that gender identity does not absolutely coincide with the sex with which the individual was born. We believe that such a ban limits academic freedom, the freedom of expression, the university autonomy, introduces the premises for censorship of research, making very difficult and practically prohibiting gender studies. This is, in our opinion, intolerable, as long as politics intervenes in the choice of research topics and censors the presentation of scientific theories, even if they are rejected by the majority of the population and possibly by the entire scientific community. Instead of censoring politically undesirable theories, the epistemological distancing of the researcher from the expressed theories should be supported as well as the expression of the methodological reservation regarding a possible subsequent invalidation of the theory. From ethical point of view, the delimitation of academic freedom opens the way for discretionary manifestation in education and research and for discrimination on the basis of political opinion or even on the basis of gender criteria or gender orientation.

Keywords: academic freedom; political correctness; freedom of expression; gender identity.

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Biodata



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ethics, bioethics, sociology, social work and social philosophy, public administration. The original contributions of the author's scientific activities start from the social construction of reality and social constructionism as seen from a semiological perspective. He analyses the social construction of reality by developing his very own version of social constructionism operating at the crossroad between the social-constructionist paradigm and the theory of communicative action. He studied the interpretative drift of ethical concepts such as ethical acceptability and ethical values. He also conducted research in autonomy and informed consent in medical ethics and public health ethics. He is also interested in transhuman and posthuman changes in human condition due to the virtualisation of social space. He is the author of the book: *Bioethics in Crisis or the Crisis of Bioethics? An Anthropology of Pandemic in Medicalised Society*, published by Lumen Publishing House. He also authored *Social Construction of Reality as Communicative action*, published at Cambridge Scholar Publishing (2016), and also *Social Work Practice: Research Techniques and Intervention Models*, *Appreciative Ethics: A Constructionist Version of Ethics* and *Social-Constructionist Epistemology: A Transmodern Overview*. The last three books have been published by Lap Lambert between 2012 and 2013. He is main editor of the books *Ethical Issues in Social Work Practice* and *Ethics in Research Practice and Innovation* published by IGI Global between 2018-2019. He has published more than 100 papers in scientific journals, among which 45 are WoS

indexed, with H factor 10. He has also authored more than 20 volumes in Romanian and English language.

Restrictions on Religious Rituals During the Covid-19 Pandemic in Romania and the Questions They Raised

Irina STAHL¹

Abstract

From the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Romanian Orthodox Church (ROC) showed great concern for public safety. It worked closely with governmental authorities, took a series of actions, and made recommendations meant to reassure the faithful while guiding them in their religious activities. Several weeks before the lock-down, the Patriarch had addressed a message regarding prayer, attendance at services, the kissing of icons and participation in the Holy Eucharist. He advised remaining calm and hopeful while taking responsible measures to prevent the spread of the virus. The message was communicated by the mass media, which started a debate about religious rituals and their potential danger for public health.

Cooperation between the government and the ROC was most evident during Easter. A special military airplane carried the Holy Light from Jerusalem to be distributed throughout Romania. The ceremony from the Holy grave was transmitted live on television and in addition to the Resurrection service from the Patriarchal cathedral. Controversy arose about the agreement between the ROC and the Minister of Internal Affairs regarding the distribution of the Holy Light.

During the lock-down, religious services were allowed to continue in the absence of parishioners. For two months people were confined to their homes and only allowed to

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leave under specific circumstances, which did not include church attendance. Despite this, and the fact that many churches transmitted their services online, a significant percent of the population admitted having been to church during lock-down. No legal actions were, however, taken against them, nor were actions taken for other very obvious violations of the legal restrictions on the part of some conservative religious leaders.

While people were advised to stay home, numerous relics of saints and miraculous icons were removed from their sanctuaries, and taken through the cities' empty streets, in solitary processions, to eradicate the virus and strengthen the faith of the people. A privately funded, nation-wide publicity campaign also brought the images of saints to the streets, by portraying doctors fighting the pandemic as modern saints. This campaign was, however, disapproved of by the ROC.

Despite the precautions taken the Church was not spared by the virus. A venerable religious leader died of the virus and his funeral occasioned a new controversy. Discussions about this and other religious rituals persist even today. Despite this, the faithful seem to be resilient and have adapted to the changes in rituals imposed by the pandemic.

Keywords: Religious rituals; Covid-19 pandemic; restrictions during lock-down; Orthodox religion; icons.

Biodata



Irina Stahl is a full time researcher at the Institute of Sociology, Romanian Academy and a founding member of the Religion & Society Laboratory. She completed studies in sociology, history and social sciences at the University of Bucharest and the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (Paris). The American Folklore Society awarded her the 2014 Don Yoder Prize for the best graduate student paper in folk belief and religious folklife. Irina has been conducting fieldwork on, and

publishing in religious studies since 2010. As an active member of the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF) she has served as secretary of the Ritual Year Working Group since 2014, is the editor of the group's newsletter and organized the 2018 Ritual Year Working Group's international conference.

Quality of Life of Preschool Education Teachers from the Perspective of Satisfaction at Work. Concepts and Approaches

Rodica ȘTEF BOLOJAN¹

Abstract

An analysis of the quality of life in Romania reveals points where individuals' assessments of aspects of life are positive, representing points of support in their lives, while other components remain in negative areas, being permanent sources of dissatisfaction in people's lives and risk factors of marginalization and social exclusion.

The field of quality of life can be defined by all the elements that refer to the physical, economic, social, cultural, political, health, etc. situation in which people live, the content and nature of the activities they carry out, the characteristics of relationships and social processes in which they participate, the goods and services they have access to, the consumption patterns adopted, the way of life and lifestyle, the evaluation of the circumstances and the results of the activities that correspond to the population's expectations, as well as the subjective perceptions of satisfaction / dissatisfaction, happiness, frustration etc.

In the field of personal life, the points of support are represented by the family and the home, while the critical elements are the state of health, income, work and personal security.

Job satisfaction is a general concept, but it could also be seen in more particular contexts. For example, the way it is operational in the field of education. This is all the more so as in kindergarten we use more and more frequently expressions

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such as: beneficiary satisfaction, quality of the educational act, harmonization of education with the labor market. Moreover, we apply questionnaires in order to assess the satisfaction that children feel as a result of the activities carried out in the group, and we ask parents about the progress made by their children. We consider, first of all, the needs and interests of educators. Then, as teachers, we aim to be actively and positively involved in everything we do, so as to promote fair practices and, in one way or another, to contribute to the creation of a culture of quality in the organization in which we work. In this paper I aim to analyse the quality of life of teachers in preschool education from the perspective of job satisfaction, reviewing the main theoretical approaches and discussing the application of basic concepts related to job satisfaction in the field of preschool education.

Keywords: quality of life; job satisfaction; satisfaction of education beneficiaries; professional value; hierarchical-value structure; educators; preschool educational institution.

Biodata



I have been a teacher for preschool education for 30 years. I've been a kindergarten manager for 13 years. I have the first teaching degree.

I graduated the Faculty of Education Sciences. Master of educational management. Currently I am in the first year at the doctoral school at University

of Oradea, department of Sociology.

The theme of the doctoral thesis is "Satisfaction of beneficiaries of education (parents) in preschool education. For the beginning, I research the literature for the concepts - education, family, quality of life, satisfaction.

Part of the Romanian Model of Supervision in Social Work in Public / Private Institutions in the N-E Region of Romania

Elena UNGURU¹, Antonio SANDU²

Abstract

The relationship of supervision is an evaluative, long-term one, oriented towards a series of goals: improving the professional activity of the supervised persons; monitoring the quality of services provided by practitioners and promoting professional practice in general. From the point of view of the supervisor's membership in the organization, we are talking about internal supervision - in which the supervisor is a member of the organization, often also a member of the management team - and external supervision, the supervisor not being a member of the organization's team, it's relationship with the organization usually being temporary. The purpose of the research is the analysis of the main axes of the social construction of supervision of social services in public Child Protection institutions in the N-E area of Romania. Supervision is focused on solutions, aims to identify the problems faced by the social worker on a case, and diagnose social problems, the supervision process being focused on, when problems arise in solving the client's case, the causes that determined these problems and identifying optimal solutions. Professional supervision in social work is a very important activity for both professionals and beneficiaries, and the organization providing social assistance services, because through supervision are

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simultaneously pursued the professional development of social workers, quality of social services, respect for the interests of beneficiaries and the ethics of social practice. The supervisor can be considered a key person in the organization, because he is a node of organizational communication, at the intersection between the interests of the beneficiaries, the social service provider and the social work case manager. Trust is a key element of the resulting supervision model for the N-E region of Romania that is consistent and convergent with the values of the social worker and the international practice of the supervisor in social work.

Keywords: Supervision; social work; supervisor; supervisee; Romanian model of supervision.

Biodata



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Antonio Sandu is Professor PhD at "Stefan cel Mare" University of Suceava, Romania, and Senior Researcher at the LUMEN Research Center in Social and Humanistic Sciences, Iasi, Romania. His main areas of interest include ethics, bioethics, social work and social philosophy. The original contributions of the author's scientific activities start from the social construction of reality and social constructionism as seen from a semiological perspective. He analyses the social construction of reality by developing his very own version of social constructionism operating at the intersection between the constructionist paradigm and the theory of communicative action. He is the author of the book: *Social Construction of Reality as Communicative action*, published at Cambridge Scholar Publishing (2016), and also of "Social Work Practice: Research Techniques and Intervention Models: From Problem Solving to Appreciative Inquiry", "Appreciative Ethics: A constructionist version of ethics" and "Social-Constructionist Epistemology: A transmodern overview", all three published by Lap Lambert between 2012 and 2013. He has also authored more than 20 volumes in Romanian and English language.

In the Mirror of the Covid-19 Pandemic: The Split and Reunification of Spouses / Partners

Olena YATSYNA¹

Abstract

In the article the author reflects on the strategies of actions / interactions of the "pandemic society". It is noted that in a situation of global turn, everyone discovers new meanings and understands their value for themselves. It is emphasized that the process of comprehension and reassessment of individual axiological directions inevitably actualizes the issue of self-reference of identities and intensifies the search for the meaning of life.

It is considered how social isolation affects the nature of interpersonal relations of spouses / partners. Taking into account the results of the pilot study, the goal is to generalize and interpret socio-psychological data on the nature of interpersonal relationships in conditions of long-term quarantine. The study is based on the methodology of postmodernism, which determines the justification of explanations of identified social phenomena and events based on a combination of empirical data with their interpretation.

It is concluded that the results of the express questionnaire allowed to take a comprehensive approach to the voice of the questions that arose in response to the challenges of the endemic of Coronavirus COVID-19 to each family. The reflection of the obtained data, according to the author, gives grounds to believe that in the social reality there is a turn of interpersonal relations of spouses / partners in the

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direction of their humanization. It is emphasized that changes at the level of interpersonal relationships show that you need to appreciate the simplest things - to take care of each other.

Keywords: social isolation; relationship crisis; relationship healing; self-reference of identities; interpersonal relationships.

Biodata

The topic of the doctoral dissertation is "Postmodern transformations of social and psychological practices of marital and family partnership and parenthood". The work was performed at the Institute of Social and Political Psychology of the National Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of Ukraine; specialty: social psychology, psychology of social work (19.00.05).

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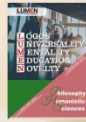
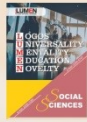
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