# Sociology Abstracts

Tenth Annual International Conference on Sociology 2-5 May 2016, Athens, Greece

Edited by Gregory T. Papanikos

THE ATHENS INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH





Sociology Abstracts
10<sup>th</sup> Annual International
Conference on Sociology
2-5 May 2016, Athens, Greece

Edited by Gregory T. Papanikos

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# **Preface**

This abstract book includes all the summaries of the papers presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Sociology, 2-5 May 2016, organized by the Sociology Research Unit of the Athens Institute for Education and Research. In total there were 51 papers, coming from 25 different countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Libya, Lithuania, Macau, Mauritius, Nigeria, South Africa, Spain, UAE, Uganda, UK, and USA). The conference was organized into 12 sessions that included areas of Social Change, Social Policy and Social Justice, Culture, Work, Migration, Technology and Education, Social Processes, Deviance and Other Essays and other related fields. As it is the publication policy of the Institute, the papers presented in this conference will be considered for publication in one of the books and/or journals of ATINER.

The Institute was established in 1995 as an independent academic organization with the mission to become a forum where academics and researchers from all over the world could meet in Athens and exchange ideas on their research and consider the future developments of their fields of study. Our mission is to make ATHENS a place where academics and researchers from all over the world meet to discuss the developments of their discipline and present their work. To serve this purpose, conferences are organized along the lines of well established and well defined scientific disciplines. In addition, interdisciplinary conferences are also organized because they serve the mission statement of the Institute. Since 1995, ATINER has organized more than 150 international conferences and has published over 100 books. Academically, the Institute is organized into four research divisions and nineteen research units. Each research unit organizes at least one annual conference and undertakes various small and large research projects.

I would like to thank all the participants, the members of the organizing and academic committee and most importantly the administration staff of ATINER for putting this conference together.

Gregory T. Papanikos President

#### FINAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

# 10<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Sociology, 2-5 May 2016 Athens, Greece

#### **PROGRAM**

Conference Venue: Titania Hotel, 52 Panepistimiou Avenue, Athens, Greece

#### CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Monday 2 May 2016

08:00-08:30 Registration and Refreshments

#### 08:30-09:00 Welcome & Opening Remarks (ROOM B-Mezzanine Floor)

- Dr. Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER.
- Dr. George Poulos, Vice-President of Research, ATINER & Emeritus Professor, University of South Africa, South Africa.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### 09:15-11:00 Session I (ROOM B-Mezzanine Floor): Public Health and Health Inequality I\*

Chair: Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER.

- Ingrid Kollak, Professor, Alice Salomon University of Applied Sciences, Germany, Anna Herzog, Research
  Assistant, Alice Salomon University of Applied Sciences, Germany & Marie Woepking, Research Assistant,
  Alice Salomon University of Applied Sciences, Germany. Tales+Dementia+Study The Impact of Fairy Tale
  Telling on People with Dementia.
- 2. Brian Kavanagh, Ph.D. Candidate, The Open University, U.K. The Rise of Homonormativities and the Consequences for Gay Men's Understandings of their Risk of HIV Infection
- \*Jennifer Mitchell, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Calgary, Canada, <u>Erin Jones</u>, Research Coordinator, University of Calgary, Canada & Bonnie Lashewicz, Assistant Professor, University of Calgary, Canada. Working Men's Mental Health: Understanding and Responding to Gender Specific Struggles.
- 4. <u>Julian Maron</u>, Ph.D. Student, Research Assistant, IFT Institut für Therapieforschung, Germany, Ludwig Kraus, Senior Researcher, IFT Institut für Therapieforschung, Germany, Elena Gomes de Matos, Ph.D. Student, IFT Institut für Therapieforschung, Germany, Oliver Pogarell, Senior Researcher, University of Munich, Germany & Daniela Piontek, Senior Researcher, IFT Institut für Therapieforschung, Germany. Exploring Educational Inequalities in Pharmaceutical Use: Is the Relation Mediated by Subjective Health? (HIN)
- 5. <u>Judith Martin-Fernandez</u>, Post-doc, Pierre Louis Institute of Epidemiology and Public Health, France, Sandrine Lioret, UMR1153 Epidemiology and Biostatistics Sorbonne Paris Cité Center (CRESS), France, Amandine Arnaud, Pierre Louis Institute of Epidemiology and Public Health, France, Mathilde Roze, Pierre Louis Institute of Epidemiology and Public Health, France, Carme Caum, Pierre Louis Institute of Epidemiology and Public Health, France & Stéphanie Vandentorren, Pierre Louis Institute of Epidemiology and Public Health, France. Food Insecurity among Families Sheltered in Emergency Centers for Asylum-Seekers: The French ENFAMS Study. (HIN)
- \*Mingming Zhou, Assistant Professor, University of Macau, Macau & Wenting Wang, MSc Student, University
  of Macau, Macau. Short Form of Intercultural Sensitivity Scale C (ISS-15): Conceptual Framework and Scale
  Validation.
- \*Richard Christy, Associate Professor, Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada. Quality of Societal Life and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Governance.

<sup>\*</sup>This session is jointly offered with the Health Research Division of ATINER

11:00-12:30 Session II (ROOM A-Mezzanine Floor	11:00-12:30 Session III (ROOM B-Mezzanine Floor):	
Social Change, Social Policy and Social Justice*	Public Health & Health Inequality II**	
Chair: *Nirmal Kumar Betchoo, Lecturer	/ Chair: Ingrid Kollak, Professor, Alice Salomon	
Researcher, Universite des Mascareignes, Mauritius.	University of Applied Sciences, Germany	
Amy Blackstone, Professor, University of Mair	e, 1. <u>Abolghassem Djazayery</u> , Professor Emeritus,	
USA. Constructing the Childfree Family.	Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran &	
Moshe Sharabi, Senior Lecturer, Yezreel Vall- Academic College, Israel. Life Domai Preferences among Women and Men according	University, Iran. The Effects of a Regular Daily	

- Organizational Status and the Impact of Demographic Factors.
- Angelica Maria Pardo Lopez, Researcher on Criminal Policy, Externado de Colombia University, Colombia. Strengthening of Indigenous Jurisdiction in the Context of Overcrowded and Inhuman Prisons in Colombia.
- 4. <u>Teodoras Medaiskis</u>, Professor, Vilnius University, Lithuania, Tadas Gudaitis, Senior Researcher, Vilnius University, Lithuania & Andrius Škarnulis, Researcher, Vilnius University, Lithuania. Is the Supply of Second Pillar Pension Funds and Investment Strategies Sufficient in Lithuania?
- William Sampson, Professor, DePaul University, USA. Chicago Charter Schools' Real Reform or Rip-Off?
- Florian Fougy, Research Associate, University of Angers, France. A Matter of Trust and Time: Back to the Adoption of Embeddedness in Economic Geography (1985-2015).

- Performance of Male Primary School Children in Tehran, Iran. (HIN)
- \*David Achanfuo Yeboah, Professor, Abu Dhabi University, UAE. Towards a Framework for Sustainable Health Care. (PUH)
- Lawrence Sithole, Optometrist, University of South Africa, South Africa. An Overview of the National Health Insurance (NHI) and Its Possible Impact on Eye Health Care Services in South Africa. (PUH)
- 4. Angelina Maphula, Lecturer, University of Venda, South Africa, James Takalani, Lecturer, University of Venda, South Africa, Rebecca Dillingham, Director, Center for Global Health, University of Virginia, USA, Rebecca Scharf, Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, University of Virginia, USA, Richard Guerrant, University of Virginia, USA & Pascal Bessong, Professor of Microbiology, University of Venda, South Africa. Perceptions and Experiences among a South African Rural Population Participating in a Prospective Birth Cohort Study: Mal-ED, South Africa. (PUH)
- Folajinmi Oluwasina, Monitoring & Evaluation, University of Ibadan, Nigeria & AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Nigeria, Kate Ssamulla, Director, Monitoring and Evaluation-Africa Bureau, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Uganda, Penninah Iutung, Bureau Chief-Africa, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Uganda, Oluwakemi Gbadamosi, Snr Manager, PR and communications-Africa Bureau, AIDS Healthcare Foundation Kenya, Daniel Reijer, Global Director of Data and Analytics, AIDS Healthcare Foundation Kenya & Towolawi Adetayo, Country Program Manager, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Nigeria. Factors Mıtıgatıng Access to HIV Treatment, Prevention and Care Services among Urban Poor in Nigeria: Lessons from AIDS Healthcare Foundation Impact.

\*This session is jointly offered with the Business and Law Research Division of ATINER \*\*This session is jointly offered with the Health Research Division of ATINER

12:30-14:30 Urban Walk (Details during registration) 14:30-15:30 Lunch

# 15:30-17:30 Session IV (ROOM A-Mezzanine Floor):

# A Panel on Southern European Countries I\* Chair: \*Ramon Bonell Colmenero, Associate Professor, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain.

1. \*Domenico Maddaloni, Associate Professor, University of Salerno, Italy. Southern European Pathways Across the Great Crisis. (Panel on

- Southern European Countries)
  2. Anna Giulia Ingellis, Associate Professor, Universitat de València, Spain. The Impact of the Economic Crisis on Labor Market. Southern European Countries in a Comparative Perspective. (Panel on Southern European Countries)
- Fortunato Maria Cacciatore, Associate Professor, Università Della Calabria, Italy. Migrants and Democracy in Europe. (Panel on Southern European Countries)
- Pascal Jollivet, Assistant Professor, Université de Technologie de Compiègne (UTC) (Comue

# 15:30-17:30 Session V (ROOM B-Mezzanine Floor): Organization and Public Health\*\*

#### Chair: \*David Achanfuo Yeboah, Professor, Abu Dhabi University, UAE.

- Fatma El Zahraa Abdel Rahman, Chief Admin Officer, Ahmadi Hospital, Kuwait Oil Company, Kuwait. Using Key Competencies to Manage Career Development & Direction, via Mentoring Programme At Ahmadi Hospital, Kuwait Oil Company, 2014-2016. (PUH)
- Tim Morse, Senior Lecturer, Coventry University, U.K. Which Physical Assessment Skills Do Nurses Require, When Do They Use them and what are the Barriers to Their Use?
- John Moraros, Associate Professor, University of Saskatchewan, Canada. Lean Implementation in Saskatchewan Canada.
- 4. Sharon Halleron-Kerr, Departmental

# 10th Annual International Conference on Sociology, 2-5 May 2016, Athens, Greece: Abstract Book

Sorbonne Universités), France. Green Jobs vs. Structural Unemployment? Prospects and Limits for Europe.	
*This session is jointly offered with the Business and	**This session is jointly offered with the Health Research
Law Research Division of ATINER	Division of ATINER

17:30-19:30 Session VI (ROOM A-Mezzanine Floor): A Round-Table Discussion on Europe at a Crossroads: Economic, Social, Political, Legal and Cultural Challenges\*

#### Chair: Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER.

#### Speakers:

- 1. Dr Dieter Boegenhold, Professor, University of Klagenfurt, Austria.
- 2. Dr Ramón Bonell, Associate Professor, Complutense University, Spain.
- 3. Dr Domenico Maddaloni, Associate Professor, University of Salerno, Italy.
- 4. Dr Henrique De Alencar, Associate Researcher, IFA, the Netherlands.

21:00-23:00 Greek Night and Dinner (Details during registration)

#### Tuesday 3 May 2016

#### Session VII (ROOM A-Mezzanine 09:00-11:00 Session VIII (ROOM B-Mezzanine Floor): A Panel on Southern European Countries II\* Floor): Health Inequalities and Quality of Health\*\* Chair: \*Domenico Maddaloni, Associate Professor, Chair: John Moraros, Associate Professor, University University of Salerno, Italy. of Saskatchewan, Canada. Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER. The Anita Rakic, Head of Laboratory, Teaching Public Simple Arithmetic of Greek Social Spending, Health Institute of Split and Dalmatia County, Public Wages, Government Deficits and Sovereign Croatia. Impact of Microbiological Media on Debt. Quality Microbiological Finding. (Tuesday May 3, Felice Addeo, Assistant Professor, University of 2016) (PUH) Anastasia Kalpakidou, Post-doctoral Research Salerno, Italy, Paolo Diana, Assistant Professor, University of Salerno, Italy, Gianmaria Bottoni, Associate / Trial Coordinator, University College Ph.D. Candidate, Sapienza, University of Rome, London, U.K., Marta Buszewicz, Reader in Primary Italy & Maria Esposito, Ph.D. Candidate, Care PCPH, University College London, U.K. & University of Salerno, Italy. Social Cohesion in the Irwin Nazareth, Professor in Primary Care PCPH, Time of Crisis: An Empirical Research on EU University College London, U.K. ToSCA - Trial of Member States. (Panel on Southern European Sertraline versus Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Countries) for Generalised Anxiety. \*Annamaria Uzzoli, Research Fellow, Hungarian Domenico Fruncillo, Research Fellow and Assistant Professor, University of Salerno, Italy. Populism Academy of Sciences, Hungary. Changes of Health and the Italian Electorate. (Panel on Southern Inequalities in Space and Time in the Post-socialist European Countries) Period of Hungary. (HIN) Luca Bifulco, Assistant Professor, Università degli \*Romona Devi Govender, Principal Specialist Studi di Napoli Federico II, Italy. Neoliberal Family Medicine, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Discourse and Cultural Hegemony in Italy. South Africa. Emergency Contraception: Gerardo Pastore, Researcher, University of Pisa, Disappointing as a Public Health Intervention in Italy. Paradoxes of the Knowledge Society. Some South Africa. Considerations on the Italian Situation. (Panel on Southern European Countries) \*This session is jointly offered with the Business and \*\*This session is jointly offered with the Health

#### 11:00-12:30 Session IX (ROOM B-Mezzanine Floor): Social Processes, Deviance and Other Essays

### Chair: \*Richard Christy, Associate Professor, Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada.

Law Research Division of ATINER

 Dexter Voisin, Professor, University of Chicago, USA, Caitlin Elsasser, Assistant Professor, University of Connecticut, USA, Donga Ha Kim, Assistant Professor, Sungkyunkwan University, USA & Sadiq Patel, Ph.D. Student, University of Chicago, USA. Taking a Closer Look at Exposure to Community Violence among Low Income African American Youth in Chicago.

**Research Division of ATINER** 

- 2. Evangelos Mantzaris, Senior Researcher, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa. Multiple-Class co-Existence and Corruption in South Africa: A Case Study in Cape Town.
- Lucy Dwight, Senior Instructor, University of Colorado, USA. Gun Ownership in the United States: The Interaction of Race and Religiosity.
- \*Robert MacAuslan, Assistant Professor, Southern New Hampshire University, USA. Imperial Japan and the Confucian Ecumene.
- 5. Lejla Mušić, Assistant Professor, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Female Sociology as

<sup>\*</sup>This panel is jointly offered with the Business and Law Research Division of ATINER

# 10th Annual International Conference on Sociology, 2-5 May 2016, Athens, Greece: Abstract Book

Academic Discipline: Problems and Gender Based Marginalisation against Female Sociologists.

#### 12:30-14:00 Session X (ROOM A-Mezzanine Floor): Work, Migration, Technology and Education I\*

Chair: \*Marcellina Offoha, Associate Professor and Acting Dean of Student Life, Federal University Otuoke, Nigeria.

- Pedro Manuel Garcia-Villaverde, Professor, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain, Maria Jose Ruiz Ortega, Lecturer, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain, Gloria Parra-Requena, Professor, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain & Job Rodrigo Alarcon, Assistant Professor, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain. Cognitive Social Capital, Entrepreneurial Orientation and Absorptive Capacity: Caught in the Middle.
- Christopher Huxley, Professor Emeritus, Trent University, Canada. Innovations in Learning Programs in the Canadian Labour Movement.
- 3. Weidong Chen, Assistant Researcher, China Youth & Children Research Center, China & Luxin Li, Associate Researcher, China Youth & Children Research Center, China. The Basic Situation of the Usage of Mobile Internet among Chinese Young People.
- 4. Liangxun Zhang, Deputy Director, China Youth & Children Research Center, China. The Basis for Establishing Youth Studies as an Independent Academic Discipline.

\*This session is jointly offered with the Business and Law Research Division of ATINER

#### 14:00-15:00 Lunch

#### 15:00-17:30 Session XI (ROOM A-Mezzanine Floor): Work, Migration, Technology and Education II\*

Chair: : <u>Sabina Vlasic</u>, Associate for the Professional Development, MLC - Faculty of Management and Law Ljubljana, Slovenia

- Nicholas Boettcher-Sheard, Student/Research Assistant, University of Calgary, Canada & \*Bonnie Lashewicz,
  Assistant Professor, University of Calgary, Canada. Incorporating Mental Health Support in Employee Benefits
  Programs in Canada since WWII: A Systematized Review.
- 2. \*Nirmal Kumar Betchoo, Lecturer / Researcher, Universite des Mascareignes, Mauritius. Competences in the Cluster and Beyond: A Case Study of the Mauritian Industry.
- \*Marcellina Offoha, Associate Professor and Acting Dean of Student Life, Federal University Otuoke, Nigeria. Remigration of Nigerian Professionals in Diaspora: Benefits and Ethical Challenges.
- Deepa Idnani, Research Scholar, UCL- Institute of Education, UK. Authority, Teacher and Schooling- An ethnography.

\*This session is jointly offered with the Business and Law Research Division of ATINER

#### 17:30-19:00 Session XII (ROOM B-Mezzanine Floor): Data Analytics in Healthcare\*

Chair: Jayoung Che, Associate Professor, Busan University of Foreign Studies, South Korea.

- Hamoud Bin Obaid, PhD Student University of Oklahoma, USA & <u>Theodore Trafalis</u>, Head, Industrial Engineering Research Unit, ATINER, Professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering & Director, Optimization & Intelligent Systems Laboratory, The University of Oklahoma, USA. Cyclic Physician Scheduling in Outpatient Clinics using Goal Programming.
- \*Antonio Scala, Research Scientist, CNR Institute of Complex Systems, Italy, Guido Caldarelli, Professor, IMT Alti Studi Lucca, Italy & Pietro Auconi, Medical Doctor, Private Practice of Orthodontics, Italy. Complex Networks for data-Driven Medicine. (Panel)
- Adel M. Zeglam, Professor, Consultant Neurodevelopment Pediatrician, Tripoli University, Al-Khadra Teaching Hospital, Libya. Autistic Spectrum Disorder Today in Libya Five Years' Experience.
- 4. \*David Achanfuo Yeboah, Professor, Abu Dhabi University, UAE. Towards a Framework for Sustainable Health Care. (PUH)
- 5. <u>Janet Kurzynske</u>, Professor, University of Kentucky, USA, Ann Vail, Professor, University of Kentucky, USA, Nicole Peritore, Senior Extension Specialist, University of Kentucky, USA, Margaret McGladrey, Assistant Dean, Research College of Public Health, University of Kentucky, USA & Janet Mullins, Professor, University of Kentucky, USA. Using a Socio-Ecological Framework for Community-Based Obesity Disparity Reduction Strategies.

\*This session is jointly offered with the Health Research Division of ATINER

20:30-22:00 Dinner (Details during registration)

Wednesday 4 May 2016 Cruise: (Details during registration)

Thursday 5 May 2016 Delphi Visit: (Details during registration)

#### Fatma El Zahraa Abdel Rahman

Chief Admin Officer, Ahmadi Hospital, Kuwait Oil Company, Kuwait

# Wsing Key Competencies to Manage Career Development & Direction, via Mentoring Programme At Ahmadi Hospital, Kuwait Oil Company, 2014-2016

Background: As leaders, we have an obligation to help our future by training & mentoring tomorrow's leaders today, by using an effective mentoring programme. The leader has a vision & a plan, inspiring people around them to believe in & execute that plan. Leadership & mentoring of young employees is a way senior employees can help drive success of a corporation or an initiative. Serving in the role of a mentor reinforces that the mentor is a SME (subject matter expert), demonstrating leadership qualities by sharing this expertise. A mature organization has a certain culture about it that the experienced employee is comfortable with & knows how to navigate through. Best practice mentoring continually builds on the mentor's skills to help them better understand & communicate with their mentee, and to role model a continuous learning approach in their own career.

Aims: To share challenges faced, strategies implemented, methodologies used during the mentoring processes for four graduates (as KOC Future Talents), between 2014-2016; towards selecting, updating, reviewing & compiling the best "Healthcare Competencies Module, 2016-2018", starting by preparatory scheme; including implementation phase, reaching a sound overall Action Plan related to Hospitalwide Professional Development.

Methods: Four KOC Future Talents (Medical Team) fully involved in all pertinent "Literature Review Related to Healthcare Competencies, Comparative Studies & Data Analysis" through regular Small Circle Meetings, by Subject Matter Experts, attending with Medical Focus Groups, which are formulated from various clinical & non - clinical, multidisciplinary staff, who provides depth & content validity selecting the most suitable diversified learning tools. Also, shadowing Data Entry Staff (using Oracle Application) in preparation for Online Gap Analysis Discussion (GAD) Sessions, attending with Department's &/ Division Heads & Subject Matter Experts all assessment sessions related to Personal Professional Development Plans.

Results: Four mentees will share within the "Professional Development Action Plan, 2016-2017" analysis, compilation & implementation, via Oracle Generated Reports.

Conclusion: Professional Development Action Plans 2016-2017 should be summarised, tabulated, defended before 31st January 2016, earning final approval for budget allocation & translated into cost.

#### Felice Addeo

Assistant Professor, University of Salerno, Italy **Paolo Diana** 

Assistant Professor, University of Salerno, Italy

Gianmaria Bottoni

Ph.D. Candidate, Sapienza, University of Rome, Italy

&

# Maria Esposito

Ph.D. Candidate, University of Salerno, Italy

# Social Cohesion in the Time of Crisis: An Empirical Research on EU Member States

The sociological concept of Social Cohesion, after a first phase in which it gained spread and notoriety within social sciences (considering, for example, Durkheim's contributions, 1893), has been abandoned in favor of other similar concepts, such as integration and solidarity.

However, during the last twenty years, the concept has regained relevance mainly thanks to the intervention of several institutions, both national and international (for example OECD, European Community, World Bank, Governments of some countries, such as England, France and Canada), that have reconsidered the concept of Social Cohesion, adapting it to their governance needs.

The present work aims at proposing an effective and reliable theoretical and operational definition for the concept of Social Cohesion, starting from the contribution of those scholars (Stiglitz, Sen and Fitoussi, 2009) that claimed the inadequacy of measuring the welfare of a country only through economic indicators. In other words, the aim of this contribution is to provide a concept of Social Cohesion that will take into account not only economic factors, but also other fundamental dimensions that define the Welfare of a country, such as active citizenship, trust, shared values, integration.

The concept of Social Cohesion will be empirically defined with the aid of several databases (Eurostat, but also academic datasets) from which different socio-economic indicators for the 28 EU Member States will be drawn. Data will be analyzed through an explorative factor analysis approach, whose main result will be the creation of a Social Cohesion composite index.

The Social Cohesion Index will be used to rank the 28 EU Member States. Moreover, the research will consider a comparative analysis among different models of Social Cohesion observed in the European nations, with particular reference to the differences between the States of Southern Europe and those with different welfare systems, typical of Northern Europe.

#### Nirmal Kumar Betchoo

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# Competences in the Cluster and Beyond: A Case Study of the Mauritian Industry

This paper assesses the development of competences in business cluster in the island of Mauritius, situated in the Indian Ocean. The cluster concept comes from ideologies and strategies developed by the founding fathers of the Mauritian industry. The creation of business clusters came at a time when Mauritius needed to develop and export commodities to improve its production while diversifying its industry that remained focused on a monocrop culture dominated by sugar cane cultivation. The approach of this paper covers the need to develop an industrialised sector in the 1970s in Mauritius followed by the creation of business clusters that required the need to have competences, production and distribution facilities that could create high added value for Mauritian export products. These clusters depended on the vision ad strategy of the founding fathers. Illustrations underlie how and why the business clusters remained an exclusivity in the development of the industrial sector. The paper goes forward to address the lessons learnt from the development of competences, the need to sustain such competitive advantage and how the transformation of Mauritius into an industrialised society as from the new millennium questions the need for business clusters. On the one hand, clusters will still be widely used for the creation and development of competences in selected industries. Comparatively, the expansion of industrial development might rather call for the development of competences beyond clusters and see how practical and challenging might be the development of competences outside the cluster. The paper is essentially a research paper based on a case study approach to better grasp the relevance of competences evolving from a previous cluster-based competence approach to a national-based competence strategy in today's changing business environment.

#### Luca Bifulco

Assistant Professor, Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, Italy

# Neoliberal Discourse and Cultural Hegemony in Italy

The paper wants to analyze, with neo-Gramscian conceptual tools, how in Italy the neoliberal discourse tries to take hegemonic features, creating consent on certain economic assumptions – whose value is taken for granted – legitimizing the leadership of the ruling classes. Through the content analysis of Italian newspapers, on issues such as the fiscal compact or job reforms, I will try to understand how the keywords of competitiveness, economic growth, free market, deregulation are taken for granted, even if they are functional to the interests of the new fractions of ruling capital. A neoliberal discourse that implies the idea of a hegemonic market, considered as natural and universally accepted law, even by the subordinate classes. An ideology that wants the worker to share the risks and believing that only the business will overcome the crisis.

# Amy Blackstone

Professor, University of Maine, USA

# **Constructing the Childfree Family**

Are children what makes a family? Do families that do not include children count as families? The notion that families must and do always include children is so commonly accepted that to state so might put one at risk of being ridiculed for stating the obvious. At the same time, Kath Weston (1991) and others established long ago that families are something we choose, not limited to ties held by blood or marriage. If this latter proposition is true, what of the childfree, those who have made the explicit and intentional choice not to have or rear children? Are they without family, or do they create families of choice? In this paper, I explore how the childfree "do" family. I start from the theoretical propositions of Oswald, Blume, and Marks (2005), who view family as something we "do" rather than as something we simply "have", similar to West and Zimmerman's (1987) now-classic theory about how we "do" rather than "have" gender. By emphasizing how we do family rather than how we have or are family, the focus shifts from simply defining family to understanding how the notion of family is constructed, resisted, and maintained. Families that do not include children have grown steadily since the 1970s but this family form has, until recently, been largely overlooked by scholars and in popular discourse. Today, as nations see rates of childlessness increase and as politicians, media commentators, and parents worried they might never experience the joys of grandchildren take notice, we must better understand how these families are formed, by whom, and through what rituals. Drawing from prior research and my own interviews with 65 childfree women and men, I explore how, and the extent to which, those without children "do" family and suggest avenues for future research.

#### Nicholas Boettcher-Sheard

Student/Research Assistant, University of Calgary, Canada &

# **Bonnie Lashewicz**

Assistant Professor, University of Calgary, Canada

# Incorporating Mental Health Support in Employee Benefits Programs in Canada since WWII: A Systematized Review

The purpose of our paper is to trace the development of mental health support in workplace employee benefits programs in Canada since the "historical moment" of the end of World War II. Propelled by the observable effects of the war on society, a paradigm shift occurred entailing a weakening of the prevailing model of mental illness as a hereditary defect, and a deepening of understandings of the role of environment as a determinant of mental health. At the same time, new trends in workplace policy and management, deemed necessary to keep pace with demands of the wartime economy, continued to gather momentum. Canada has since witnessed widespread change in the makeup of workplaces and the nature of work itself as a result of demographic shifts, technology, and an increasingly globalized economy. Amidst these changes, contemporary workplace mental health supports continue to coalesce around trends that have postwar origins. We offer our historical overview and analysis drawing on a critical social structural lens consistent with Tausig's conception of the sociology of work and well-being (2013). Accordingly, stress and harm related to work are viewed as historical products of economic systems, labor markets, social structures of inequality, and the intersection of social institutions. Workplace mental health supports are similarly viewed as produced by social structural forces and manifest relative to work related mental stress and harm.

We conducted a systematized search of academic databases for literature related to developments in mental health supports in Canadian workplaces and through our review of this literature, we illustrate how mental health supports are cast according to a neoliberal market logic that frames the recovery of lost employee productivity as a top priority. We use this historical context to interrogate how the conflation of worker mental health with economic productivity exists as a product of social structural forces. We conclude with possible directions for supports that disrupt this conflation and better honor the nuances of mental health in the workplace.

#### Fortunato Maria Cacciatore

Associate Professor, Università Della Calabria, Italy

# Migrants and Democracy in Europe

"Citizenship", "People", "Nation": through the articulation and disarticulation of these concepts, I will attempt to investigate the constitutive contradictions of the european democracies, which have become more evident adressing the migrants movements and their demands.

The question is: Can the institutions of the european democracies still ground on the "equation" between "citizenship" and "nationality"?

My primary bibliographical references will be: Étienne Balibar, Jacques Derrida, Saskia Sassen, Robert Castel, Ernesto Laclau.

## **Weidong Chen**

Assistant Researcher, China Youth & Children Research Center, China &

Luxin Li

Associate Researcher, China Youth & Children Research Center, China

# The Basic Situation of the Usage of Mobile Internet among Chinese Yong People

Today, more and younger people surf internet by Mobile in China. According to the survey of "Development Status of Chinese Youth and Children (by China Youth & Children Research Centre, May, 2015)", close to 90% of Chinese young people have the experience of net play, and more than 60% possess mobiles. They have their own styles in using mobile internet. They usually spend more leisure time on social interactions, entertainments, internet games, assisting study and so on. The mobile internet is having a profound impact on Chinese young people, including leisure life, social cognition, social communication, seeking knowledge and so on. The differences among young people in the families with different economic status and in the regions with different development levels (urban areas and rural areas) are remarkable on the usage of mobile internet in China.

## **Richard Christy**

Associate Professor, Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada

# Quality of Societal Life and 21st Century Governance

According to Max Weber traditional authority, charismatic authority and rational legal authority are the three types of legitimate authority in society. In a post-modern scientific, technological era rational legal authority dominates all social organizations including government. In his article "The Malaise of Modernity" Charles Taylor argues that "the primacy of instrumental reason results in a society without a sacred structure and everything in society is up for grabs." For Taylor every aspect of the cultural and social structure can be subject to debate and criticism including political structures and the "head of state". Canada is a constitutional monarchy in which traditional and bureaucratic authority are blended. How was traditional authority established in Canadian society? What if any role does traditional authority plays in contemporary Canadian society? Does traditional authority enhance and/or compliment rational legal authority of the Canadian nation state? What is the impact of traditional authority on the quality of life in post-modern societies?

#### Romona Devi Govender

Principal Specialist Family Medicine, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

# **Emergency Contraception: Disappointing As a Public Health Intervention in South Africa**

Background: World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 84 million unwanted pregnancies occur annually world-wide and many of these can be prevented with the use of emergency contraception. Emergency contraception is largely underutilized worldwide. Despite a progressive reproductive health policy and the legal re-scheduling of EC pills, the South African health institutions also need to create an enabling environment for the increased usage of emergency contraception (EC).

Aim: The aim of this study is to assess the awareness and knowledge of emergency contraception among women who present for choice on termination of pregnancy to a district hospital in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

Methods: A cross sectional descriptive study was conducted over a period of 7 months. A sample of 217 patients voluntarily participated in the study. Data was collected using a validated and structured questionnaire and was analysed using SPSS.

Results: A total of 217 women completed the questionnaire. The ages of the respondents ranged from 16 to 52 years, with a mean age of 25.89 years. Ninety nine percent were black African, 87% of the sample was single, and 73.9% had secondary level education. Eighty six percent are from an urban environment. Forty four percent are unemployed and 38.1% attending school. About 70% of respondents had heard about ECs with 45% of them having heard about it from their peers and with about 41% having used an EC. The multivariate analysis indicated that respondents who were older (>25 years) and having a level of education higher than the secondary level were more likely to be aware of EC (p<0.05).

Conclusion: This study showed that age is a strong predictor of use and having heard of ECs. Knowledge, access to and the use of emergency contraception are crucial if South Africa wants to reduce the prevalence of unwanted pregnancies following unprotected sexual intercourse and the number of legal abortions performed.

## Abolghassem Djazayery

Professor Emeritus, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran

&

# Khadijeh Rahmani

Instructor, Shahid-Beheshti University, Iran

# The Effects of a Regular Daily Milk Supplement on the Mental Growth and School Performance of Male Primary School Children in Tehran, Iran

Objective: This study was conducted to investigate the effects of a regular daily milk supplement on the mental growth and school performance of male primary school children in Tehran, Iran.

Methods and Methods: A total of 400 male primary school children with a similar (medium) socio-economic status, food consumption and body weights and heights, were assigned to either an experimental (drinking daily a 250-ml bottle of sterilized homogenized milk) or a control (receiving nothing) group. The following tests were performed on all children initially and after 4 months: Raven Colored Progressive Matrices test (RCPMT) and the Wechsler Intelligence Scale (WIS; verbal, non-verbal, total IQ) (the range of test scores: <80, 80-<90, 90-110, and >110). Results: 1. A statistically significant increase ( $\chi$ 2, p<0.05) in the proportion of experimental children (from 35.1% to 62.9%) with an RCPMTS of >110; 2. Significant increases in the proportions ( $\chi$ 2, p<0.05) of the experimental subjects with a WIS verbal, non-verbal, and total IQ test score of >110 from 0.3% to 10.1%, 0.7% to 26.3%, and 0.4% to 15.1%, respectively; 3. A significant increase in the mean GPA (out of 100) of 90.5 ± 5.1 of the experimental children in the first quarter to  $98.4 \pm 3.5$  in the second quarter (t-test, p<0.05). All other changes were statistically non-significant. Conclusion: Regular daily consumption of 250 ml milk can result in improvements in the mental growth and school performance of male primary school children.

## **Lucy Dwight**

Senior Instructor, University of Colorado, USA

# Gun Ownership in the United States: The Interaction of Race and Religiosity

The United States has the highest rate of private gun ownership in the world along with the highest gun-related murder rate among those countries with the greatest wealth (The Washington Post 2012, citing data from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime 2007 Small Arms Survey). Most Americans, however, do not own guns. According to the 2014 General Social Survey (GSS), a representative sample of adults in the U.S., less than one-third of all respondents reported that there was a gun in their home (Smith et al. 2015; see analyses by Morin 2014 as well). Moreover, there are important variations in rates of gun ownership among the U.S. population. Despite racial stereotypes to the contrary, for instance, African Americans own guns at much lower rates than whites in the U.S. – about 15% of blacks compared to almost 40% of whites according to the 2014 GSS.

In this analysis, I propose to explore this racial gap in gun ownership in the U.S. through the lens of differential rates of religiosity as an indicator of general community attachments and the expression of subcultural values. African Americans show consistently higher rates of religiosity than do whites in the U.S., and their religious commitments are quite distinct compared to the white population (Sahgal and Smith 2009). The ameliorative effect of religious attachment on violence is well-established, yet African Americans, despite low gun ownership rates, experience very high gun-linked homicide rates (Morin 2014). Relative to African Americans, white religiosity is low; yet white evangelical Christians have stronger religious attachments and higher rates of gun ownership (Morin 2014). These contrasts between blacks and whites in the U.S. may have developed as many whites experience "self defensiveness" at their perceived loss of racial and gender dominance (Kautzer 2015).

To assess these relationships, I will utilize the 2014 General Social Survey to explore interactions between race and measures of religiosity along with self-defensive ideology in predicting gun ownership. I will account for these relationships while controlling for region, gender, fear of victimization, past experience with violence, and other correlates of gun ownership. Though these dynamics and their effects on gun ownership may be specific to the United States, I propose that understanding these ideological predictors of gun ownership and their interactions with race in the U.S. provides important implications for other societies as well (see, for example, Sheikh et al. 2012).

### Florian Fougy

Research Associate, University of Angers, France

# A Matter of Trust and Time: Back to the Adoption of Embeddedness in Economic Geography (1985-2015)

The concept of embeddedness has just celebrated its 30th birthday: defined by Granovetter in his famous article "Economic action and social structure" published in 1985, it stipulates that individual actions are embedded in the social life of actors. The embeddedness concept has gained influence since the 1990s, in particular in economic geography in which applications are numerous, but also in knowledge economics, industrial economics, knowledge management, etc. Considering the embeddedness of actors has allowed the development of thoughts on thematics hardly ever considered up to then. We make reference for example to the issues of coordination, coconstruction of the environment, agglomeration phenomena, power relations, trust, etc. The objective of this article is not to realize a survey presenting the various development of academic works in economic geography in relation with the concept of embeddedness: we will rather concentrate on how Granovetter's original definition has been mobilized and implemented by economists. This leads us to present the errors of interpretation and operationalization generally committed during the mobilization of the concept in economic geography.

The study of the literature from 1985 to 2015 has allowed us to identify three recurrent and major errors on studies mobilizing the concept of embeddedness in economic geography. The first error is to consider organizational agreements as factors easing coordination and reducing opportunism. The second error refers to the hypothesis assuming that the analysis of the structure of network allows the estimation of the knowledge created, exchanged and co-constructed between agents. The third error is consecutive to the lack of consideration of the dynamic and the actors' perception of temporality.

#### **Domenico Fruncillo**

Research Fellow and Assistant Professor, University of Salerno, Italy

# **Populism and the Italian Electorate**

A number of scholars have argued that the political influence of populism has increased appreciably in recent years in most European countries. In reality, the rise of populist movements in various countries has been observed at various moments over the past twenty or thirty years, starting in Northern Europe. But without a doubt, this phenomenon now appears to be expanding, in the sense that it has spread to almost all countries and may be applied to a growing number of political actors. In this regard, it is important to remember that for some of these actors populism is an ideology, whilst for others it is only a style or rhetoric which is used to generate consensus or attract votes.

On the other hand, in public debates between political actors, as recorded in media accounts, the term populist typically has negative overtones, implying the unreliability of a leader or a political movement, for example. It is occasionally argued that populism represents a threat to democracy or a potentially destabilising process that can undermine democratic regimes. By contrast, influential scholars have argued for many years that populism represents a challenge for contemporary liberal democracies, which are obliged to find a new balance between the constitutional (procedural) and "popular" pillars on which they rest.

In brief, populism would seem to be maligned and feared, just as it is taking hold and spreading at various levels amongst political actors of representative democracy, either as an ideology or a communication style. This paradox derives from the characteristics of the very notion of populism, which many treat as a container for quite diverse concepts and empirical phenomena.

In the first part of this paper, I will aim to develop an operational definition of the concept of populism by drawing on the extensive scientific literature relating to this theme. In this way, it will be possible to analyse the phenomenon without weighing down the analysis with value-laden elements. The main aim of the paper, however, is to assess whether, and to what extent, populism – using the definition described above – has effectively penetrated the political culture of voters, including their opinions, attitudes towards politics and questions of collective interest.

The rhetoric, themes and ideology of populism are present in many countries, having been adopted by new political actors, parties with very different histories and movements that explicitly situate themselves to the right or left of the political spectrum or even refuse to characterise themselves in this way. A key challenge that remains is to determine whether populist appeals have truly penetrated the body politic, and this is the main aim of the second part of the paper.

## Pedro Manuel Garcia-Villaverde

Professor, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain Maria Jose Ruiz Ortega

Lecturer, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain Gloria Parra-Requena

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# Job Rodrigo Alarcon

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# Cognitive Social Capital, Entrepreneurial Orientation and Absorptive Capacity: Caught in the Middle

In recent decades, studies within the literature on entrepreneurship and management have highlighted the important role of the entrepreneurial orientation of the firm (in later OE) for the achievement of a superior performance. However, only a few studies have analyzed the background of OE, limited to study different direct effects (Sciascia, Naldi and Hunter, 2006), any specific dimension of OE (Kyrgidou and Spyropoulou, 2013) or the influence of internal and external factors to the company (Rosenbusch et al., 2011).

This paper attempts to offer new ideas on the major determinants of the entrepreneurial orientation of the company, filling the gap in the literature and whose analysis has been widely demanded. Following this approach, the main aim of this work consists in studying how the CSC influences on the OE of the company and how the firms' absorption capabilities moderates that relationship.

In order to contrast the proposed model, we conducted an empirical study in a sample of 292 companies in the agri-food industry in Spain. With the objective of evaluating the proposed model, we used partial Least Squares (PLS onwards), using the SmartPLS software. The results show the existence of a curvilinear effect (U-shaped) between the CSC and EO. Thus, for reduced and elevated levels of shared aims and values between the agents of the network of relationships, the OE of the firms will be higher. The obtained results allow us to confirm the existence of a positive moderation effect of the absorption capacity on the curvilinear relationship between CSC and EO. Therefore, the availability of a high AC to take advantage of the knowledge in their relationship networks, will allow reinforce the effect of the CSC in the OE.

## **Christopher Huxley**

Professor Emeritus, Trent University, Canada

# Innovations in Learning Programs in the Canadian Labour Movement

Trade union learning programs are often given insufficient attention by researchers, writers and activists in labour movements, as well as by those writing on topics of education theory and practice. This paper describes, analyses and assesses attempts by Canada's largest private sector union to develop innovative educational programs.

Labour educators increasingly seek to adjust to the changing learning needs of workers. Union education departments have variously attempted to meet these challenges by developing worker-friendly curricula, negotiating with employers to offer union educational programs during work time, organizing classes to accommodate rotating shift-work cycles, and offering courses in or near the workplace, often in familiar locales such as local union halls.

A critical literature review and interviews with labour education specialists in both private and public sector unions offers an assessment of the objectives, meanings and implications of union learning programs. This provides a framework for a case study of union learning in two private sector Canadian unions that have recently combined resources to form the country's largest private sector union. Research for the paper draws upon the author's involvement in research and teaching for different components of the union's educational programs, including course design and preparation of an on-line, self-paced course for the union's own union-university sponsored labour certificate program.

The case study helps to identify successes and limitations of labour education programs. A major concern is to consider the role that union learning can play in developing union cultures that enhance union democracy and advance the capacity of unions to defend their members' interests, both in collective bargaining, and to achieve broader social change.

## Deepa Idnani

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# Authority, Teacher and Schooling - An Ethnography

Sociological studies have adequately showcased the multiple ways in which the schools use the authority, power and ideology to produce, shape and reproduce social orders that the schools serve in different societies or within the same society. For instance, the study by Peter Woods (1976), David Hargreaves (1967), Stephen Ball (1981), Viv Furlong (1976), Cicourel (1974), Nell Keddie (1971) etc. show how the authority from the management is passed on to the Principal and from the Principal to the Teacher and how it shapes and plays a vital role in constructing the school ethos and school cultures of the school which it serves, which in turn reflects the purposes of schooling in the particular society and social structure of an institution.

The present study is an ethnographic work from a secondary school in India and present issues around student- teacher relationship and tries to showcase the everyday life in school the contestations and negotiations faced in this relationship and how the relationship is at the core and periphery. The normative and moral dilemmas faced in the process by the teachers and students and how it is part of the school ethos.

# Anna Giulia Ingellis

Associate Professor, Universitat de València, Spain

# The Impact of the Economic Crisis on Labor Market. Southern European Countries in a Comparative Perspective

This paper presents the first results of a research developed in the last 3 years, aimed at analyzing and comparing the impact of the crisis on the labour market in the Southern European Countries (SEC). The starting point of the analysis was the evidence that the economic impact of the crisis in countries such as Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain, causes different changes in the labour market indicators. The principal objective of the analysis was to explain the different elasticity of the unemployment rate to economic crisis: whilst, for instance, in Italy the unemployment rate increased only slightly after the start of the crisis, in Spain it more than doubled in few years. We analyzed data relating both to the labor market and to national socioeconomic conditions, with special reference to welfare systems and active labor market policies. Eurostat was the principal data source. The analysis explored the possible factors that help to explain these differences, such as: labor market regulation, less or more effective active labour policies, different structure of the labour market in the pre-crisis phase, different welfare systems, among others.

# **Pascal Jollivet**

Assistant Professor, Université de Technologie de Compiègne (UTC) (Comue Sorbonne Universités), France

# Green Jobs vs. Structural Unemployment? Prospects and Limits for Europe

Does the green shift that economies of some developed countries seem to be undertaking (especially in northern Europe) bring the promise of a bright new future for the industry and manufacturing in Europe as a whole, as far as its growth and its global competitiveness is concerned? More specifically, inside this dynamics, will the rise of Green Jobs be able to offset European massive – and seemingly structural - unemployment? According to mid-term results of an ongoing study commissioned by the European Parliament to which we are contributing, the answer seems to rely on two main phenomena. First, the type of jobs concerned by the green industry. These jobs, according to convergent evidences, are mainly belonging to the service sector. Most jobs created by the new green tech industries (as wind turbine of solar energy systems) are legal and administrative ones: "green jobs" happen to be "white collar" jobs (typical of intellectual workers) rather than "blue collar" ones. Expectations of a new demand for a low-qualified workforce seem, to this aspect, not to be achieved. But what about the expected growth of employment in high tech, qualified "green" activities, where developed countries may benefit from a competitive advantage? The second phenomenon concerns the ongoing technological revolution of new digital learning machines. Many studies and evidences converge on diagnosing a new industrial trend of capital-labour substitution, resulting from this technological revolution.. A substitution that concerns massively the standard work activities of the service sector, until now quite protected from productivity gain. We will argue that the plausible growth of green employment in Europe on the coming decade will not be high enough to make up for the new wave of "technological" unemployment that are beginning to face sectors as banking and insurance. We will conclude on the consequent need for radical reforms, at European level, concerning redistribution policies in order to maintain incomes and demand.

## Anastasia Kalpakidou

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## Marta Buszewicz

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# &

### Irwin Nazareth

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# ToSCA - Trial of Sertraline versus Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Generalised Anxiety

Background: Generalised Anxiety Disorder (GAD) is common, associated with distressing symptoms and poor daily functioning and often imposes considerable financial burdens. The UK National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence guidelines recommend low-intensity psychological therapies as the best initial treatment. However, it is uncertain whether pharmacological or psychological therapy provides the most effective longer-term treatment for those not responding to low-intensity therapies. ToSCA is a randomised controlled trial aiming to answer this question and calculate the cost-effectiveness of both approaches.

Methods: A target of 360 participants is being recruited via Increasing Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) services in England. Eligible adult participants, have a primary diagnosis of GAD as diagnosed on the Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview (MINI), a positive score of 10+ on the GAD-7 questionnaire and have received and failed to respond to low-intensity treatment. After giving informed consent and fulfilling all the eligibility criteria, participants are randomised to either the antidepressant medication sertraline prescribed by their GP as per current clinical recommendations for a 12-month period or to 14-16 Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) sessions delivered by high-intensity IAPT psychological therapists.

Outcomes: The primary outcome is the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS-A) collected at 12 months. Secondary outcomes collected at the baseline and 12-month visits and via self-completed postal questionnaires at 3, 6 and 9 months include measures of the effects of anxiety, participant satisfaction with the intervention and health economic data. Health services data will be collected for the 6 months prior to baseline and the 12 months duration of the trial.

Discussion: This trial is innovative in terms of recruiting participants directly from UK IAPT services and is the first head-to-head trial of medication versus psychological therapy in GAD. We will present and discuss relevant issues around the methodology of the trial and recruitment in particular.

## Brian Kavanagh

Ph.D. Candidate, The Open University, UK

# The Rise of Homonormativities and the Consequences for Gay Men's Understandings of their Risk of HIV Infection

The recent introduction of civil partnerships and gay marriage across numerous European countries has created a new "ideal-type" relationship structure, to which gay people can now aspire. This relationship structure has been reinforced by "cultural referents" and the positive images of gay coupledom presented across various media (Murray, 2012). However, there has been increasing concern within the communities that this shift towards homonormativities and the desire to appear as "good homosexuals" has led to the silencing of alternative voices (Croce, 2015). One of the consequences of this shift identified by Butler (2002) is that there may be a rise in moral judgements about those who do not wish to engage in the institution of marriage/civil partnership and a new hierarchy between legitimate and illegitimate sexual arrangements may be created. This research indicates that such hierarchies are appearing in the MSM communities in the UK, in which alternative transgressive discourses are being muted. The celebration of sexual diversity previously associated with these communities is being replaced by a rise in moral judgements about men who are more promiscuous and/or engaging in sexual risk-taking behaviours. As a result, an imagined illegitimate other who embodies these risk-taking behaviours is created, against which men can measure their own sexual activity. In doing so, these men sanitise their own risk-taking behaviours, which are often remarkably similar to those they have identified in the illegitimate other, and thus break the link between their own sexual behaviours and a heightened risk of HIV infection. This paper will discuss aspects of this othering process, the consequences for those working in the field of HIV and the changes needed to address these issues in sexual health interventions.

# Ingrid Kollak

Professor, Alice Salomon University of Applied Sciences, Germany **Anna Herzog** 

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&

# Marie Woepking

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# Tales+Dementia+Study - The Impact of Fairy Tale Telling on People with Dementia

The Tales+Dementia+Study is a study that accompanied the project "Once upon a time... FAIRY TALES AND DEMENTIA", which offered fairy tale narratives for people with moderate to severe dementia. The project took place in five nursing homes in Berlin, Frankfurt/Main and Hamburg. The study was looking into the impact of the narratives on the participants' well-being and define the quality characteristics for the setting as well as for the narrators to enhance further training programs.

Though psychosocial interventions were praised as useful for people with dementia (German Society for Psychiatry 2010) only little is known about appropriate concepts and settings. Therefore, qualitative research methods were used. During the intervention two cameras recorded the interaction between the auditors and the narrators and the communication within the group of participants. To understand the emotional and bodily expressions in addition to verbal expressions the data was analyzed from multiple perspectives. In the run-up for the intervention the team participated in regular situations in the nursing homes, interviewed health professional and studied the care documentation. With the help of this kind of fieldwork the team wanted to take part in the participants' life in nursing homes, understand their expressions and ways to talk and interact with peers and health care professionals.

The collected data comprises 24 sessions with ten hours of video films and 160 pages of transcriped interviews. The material was analyzed and gave detailed information on 30 regular participants and allowed a comparison of their behavior during the sessions and during their daily living. Half of the observed people in the group (16) showed an active and interested behavior. They clapped hands, answered or gave comments to the narrator, looked at each other etc. Two participants seemed indifferent – they liked the intervention on one day and disliked it on another. Two were inactive and showed no emotions – though they always returned and wanted to participate, as nurses reported in the interviews. The other participants seemed to like the events but were lesser active. People with vocal disorders (continuous humming noises) were accepted and integrated in the group.

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Participants who were characterized as apathetic, took actively part. Aggressive behavior was not visible.

The narrators were professionals who were trained for their task in nursing homes. They were able to positively validate (Feil 2010) all the participants' notions and were able to handle all kind of irritations. The events worked especially well in nursing home that welcomed the intervention from director to staff member and supported the intervention.

The M+D+S-report concluded that the observed fairy telling sessions enhanced the quality of life for people with dementia, defined by Bartholomeyczik et al. 2013 and enlarged the behavioral repertoire of people with dementia as defined by Becker et al. 2011.

The project and study were funded by the German Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth as well as by the Senate Department for Social Affairs and Health. Project duration February 2014 to August 2015.

#### Janet Kurzynske

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#### Using a Socio-Ecological Framework for Community-Based Obesity Disparity Reduction Strategies

Since 1980, obesity rates have more than doubled worldwide and the United States of America is the most obese country worldwide. Most public health professionals believe this escalation is due in part to the increased availability of calorie-dense, inexpensive foods, and reduced job related and leisure time physical activity. Using the socio-ecological model, researchers at the University of Kentucky are working with the state's six most obese counties, where adult obesity rates are greater than 40 percent. These counties are rural, with high levels of poverty and chronic disease. Despite the rural nature of these counties, the residents do not live in isolation. The socioecological model depicts the various levels of influence on individual behavior: interpersonal, institutional and organizational, community, environment, and systems. Given the interacting influences affecting eating and physical activity behaviors, unique strategies at multiple levels of the socio-ecological model were chosen for use. Evidence-based interventions and environmental strategies are being employed to support individual behavior change for people across the life course and to foster development of locally driven solutions. The first step in developing intervention strategies was engaging in formal coalition-building activities to identify and mobilize community assets, build collective capacity, and promote initiatives to address obesity. Researchers provided data and evidence-based resources to support the coalitions' work to strengthen local foods systems and to create physical activity opportunities in the built environment. To date, the six targeted Kentucky counties have developed multi-sectoral coalitions and discussed community assets. Coalitions have selected and initiated contextually appropriate implementation of evidence- or practice- based interventions to make the healthy choice the easy choice. This presentation will detail coalition-building approaches, community assets, strategies, outcome evaluation data, and progress. This project is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

#### Angelica Maria Pardo Lopez

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#### Strengthening of Indigenous Jurisdiction in the Context of Overcrowded and Inhuman Prisons in Colombia

Colombia has approximately one thousand indigenous people incarcerated in its prisons. This is a remarkable fact due to three situations: 1) Indigenous people constitutionally have their own jurisdiction and should not be judged by ordinary justice; 2) Colombian Constitutional Court has recently declared the imminent danger of physical and cultural extinction of national indigenous people due to multiple facts. One of these facts is that communities go far from their territories because of war (forced displacement) and 3) As well as forced displacement, imprisonment of an indigenous individual involves his separation from his territory, people and customs, and this, in addition to inhuman conditions of Colombian prisons, play a key role in the loss of the cultural background of he or she who is incarcerated.

Governmental responses to noxious effects of incarceration on indigenous people have been addressed to the incorporation of the so called 'differential focus' inside prisons, which consists in imitating the normal life conditions of indigenous people inside prison in order to avoid the cultural loss which is natural to incarceration.

To apply the 'differential focus' inside prisons is not only unaffordable but also impossible, culturally speaking. In contrast to that official position, this article recommends the strengthening of indigenous jurisdiction so that indigenous people can serve the penalties imposed by their own (and constitutionally recognized) justice and not that imposed by ordinary jurisdiction, which is, most of the times, incarceration.

#### Robert MacAuslan

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#### Imperial Japan and the Confucian Ecumene

Economic imperialism remains the dominant paradigm in Sociology when examining modern empires. The Core-Periphery relationships of World Systems Analysis based around exploitation of labor and resources, or capitalist cycles of accumulation provide powerful theoretical tools, and a useful lens through which to view European colonialism. However, the expansion of the Japanese empire into Taiwan during the late 19th and early 20th Centuries did not follow the same pattern of development and exploitation as its European counterparts, and had dramatically different outcomes for the former colonized state. This work compares standard economic analysis of Japanese colonialism with a modified version of Michael Mann's model of social power allowing for ideological drivers of expansion and rule, and incorporates primary and secondary historical sources, drawing heavily upon the work of John K Fairbank on the Chinese World Order. Specifically this research identifies the nature and role of Confucianism as a governing ideology in Japanese imperial expansion from 1895 (the treaty of Shimonoseki) to 1937 (the beginning of Japanese militarism) and it's similarity to the role played by Christianity in resolving the conflicts of empire which precipitated the collapse of the Western Roman empire and enabled the establishment of the Christian Ecumene in Europe.

#### Domenico Maddaloni

Associate Professor, University of Salerno, Italy

#### Southern European Pathways across the Great Crisis

The aim of this paper is to define a typology of individual and collective reactions to the Great Crisis which is affecting Southern European societies from 2010. Borrowing from a famous work of Albert O. Hirschman on individual and collective behavior in front of the social power, I argue that the answer to the crisis - latest manifestation of neoliberal globalization - can be understood primarily in terms of an opposition between three strategies: emigration (exit); innovation (loyalty); participation (voice). Other paths are possible, however, especially with reference to ritualistic behaviors directed to passively accept the downward pressure on the standards and quality of life.

#### **Evangelos Mantzaris**

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#### Multiple-Class co-Existence and Corruption in South Africa: A Case Study in Cape Town

Corruption in South Africa has been mostly the issue for newspaper and analytical magazines but in the last few years researchers in various fields, from public administration to law have attempted to change the existing empirical landscape through innovative initiatives. In these sense empirical realities related in most cases within the realm organizational behavior, socioeconomic realities, financial system dynamics and power relations intertwine in the effort to analyse and interpret the scourge.

The present article is an empirical exercise in examining beliefs, attitudes and perception of a multi-class sample of Black African South Africans in Cape Town, situated in the Western Cape, the only province in the country governed by the official opposition, the Democratic Alliance (DA). The dually –layered sample consists of people who live in the City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality one a group in an established middle class area and the other in an informal settlement situated close to each other.

Semi-structured questionnaires facilitated the combination of quantitative and qualitative data and were based on an examination of the samples' exploring opinions, ideas beliefs and perceptions in regard to political and state institutions and their connection to corruption, ethics and good governance.

The analysis of data showed that despite the fact that the existing social differences amongst the groups, their largely negative attitudes towards the corrupt politicians, administrators and anti-corruption and other entities are very similar with a number of exceptions.

#### Angelina Maphula

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#### Perceptions and Experiences among a South African Rural Population Participating in a Prospective Birth Cohort Study: Mal-ED, South Africa

Understanding participants' perceptions and experiences as research volunteers is critical to improving the effectiveness of human participants and strengthening public trust in biomedical research. Few studies have assessed experiences, quality and efficiency of the entire clinical research process from the participant's perspective. The objective of this study was to explore how participants in the MAL-ED South Africa site perceived their experiences as partakers in a two-year birth cohort study. MAL-ED is Interactions of Malnutrition and Enteric Disease: Consequences for Child Development (MAL-ED) Birth Cohort Study (a longitudinal birth cohort study in eight study sites around the world). Qualitative exploratory design was used to gain in-depth understanding of the views of study participants. Thirty one female primary caregivers were purposively selected for interviews to explore their experiences as research participants engaged on daily basis with study staff. Face-to-face semi-structured interviews were conducted in a private place for each interviewee in the local language (Tshivenda). Data was transcribed and translated to English. Qualitative thematic-content was used for data analysis. Recorded information was compared with transcribed data to avoid omissions. The study found that caregivers were motivated to stay in the study because of the opportunity for their child to be in contact with investigators who may detect health problems or disorders in the child. Participants found it very important that their children enjoyed their visits to the clinic for assessment. These visits revealed skills that caregivers were not aware their children possess. They also appreciated that they learned a lot with regard to food variation, measuring the amount of food given to the child and considering time interval to feed their children. The most difficult experience was witnessing blood draw from their children. They expressed being overwhelmed during the study because of underestimating the intensity

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of their involvement. Nevertheless they were full of enthusiasm for the study. Participants indicated that study staff had made a sincere effort to create a pleasant atmosphere, and also emphasised that staff did not put pressure on them or the child to complete a specific task. Some of the participants criticised what they considered to be an unreasonable waiting time in connection with their scheduled visits to the clinic. One of the main findings was that caregivers considered participation in Mal-ED to be the best possible choice for their children.

#### Jennifer Mitchell

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#### Working Men's Mental Health: Understanding and Responding to Gender Specific Struggles

The purpose of our paper is to contribute to understanding and responding to mental health struggles faced by working men in Canada. Men are socialized to be composed and self-reliant and correspondingly, often hesitate to acknowledge, and seek help for problems, particularly problems entailing symptoms that are not readily observable. Further, the mental health of working men is playing out as part of unpredictable economies and rapidly changing trends in work-family interfaces. Amidst such complexities, researchers have charted incidence and prevalence of mental health conditions such as depression and tracked economic costs of depression in terms such as workplace absenteeism and "presenteeism". Yet we know little about the subjective experiences of working men in relation to workplace factors that harm versus help mental health. In this paper we present qualitative findings from three focus groups (n=17) and 15 semi-structured one-on-one interviews with working men, supervisors and employee assistance/human resource representatives.

We anchor our examination by bringing together critical gender theory and critical disability studies theory. As such, we view "masculinities" as dynamic and enacted amidst privileged discourses of "normal" and "healthy". Accordingly, we use concepts of masculinities and stigma to guide our review of existing literature and subsequent analysis of data. We present findings of two main themes: mental health struggles as "hiding valued traits" and, mental health struggles as "abstract and stigmatizing". Four sub-themes under mental health struggles as abstract and stigmatizing theme include 1-"struggles not to be named" and 2- "struggles as an affront to masculinity", as well as 3- "focusing on function" in the face of struggles, and finally, 4- mental health as an "orphan in the health care system". We conclude with discussion of "where men turn" for mental health support and how employers and policy makers can promote mental health for working men.

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## Exploring Educational Inequalities in Pharmaceutical Use: Is the Relation Mediated by Subjective Health?

Introduction: This study investigates pathways from educational level to use of analgesics and sedatives by assessing a generalized structural equation model (GSEM), considering subjective physical (PH) and mental health (MH) status as potential mediators. The model posits that well-educated people's lower pharmaceutical use, as compared to the poorly educated, is associated with their better health status.

Methods: Data were taken from the 2012 German Epidemiological Survey of Substance Abuse. The study sample comprised n=9084 individuals of the general population aged 18–64 years. Direct and indirect effects of educational level (three groups based on International Standard Classification of Education) on weekly use of analgesics and sedatives (at least once a week in past 30 days) were examined by applying a generalized structural equation model (GSEM). Potential mediators were subjective physical and mental health, measured via 5-point Likert scale and re-categorized as dichotomous variable (good- vs. less-than-good-health), respectively. Age (continuous), sex (male, female), chronic disease (yes, no), marital status (married, unmarried), income (net per capita household income; quintiles), occupational status (five groups), regional distribution (West Germany, East Germany) and interview mode (CATI, PAPI, online questionnaire) were considered as covariates. The described GSEM is illustrated in Figure 1 (covariates are not shown).

Results & Discussion: [No results at present.] It is hypothesized that 1) the (direct) effect of education on pharmaceutical use is mediated by the health status, 2.a) physical health plays a more important role in the relation of education and analgesics use (as compared to sedatives use), and 2.b) mental health plays a more important role in the relation of education and sedatives (as compared to analgesics use). Results will be discussed in light of whether subjective health indicators as mediator between SES and pharmaceutical use can substantially contribute to our understanding of health-related inequalities.

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Food Insecurity among Families Sheltered in Emergency Centers for Asylum-Seekers: The French ENFAMS Study

#### **Teodoras Medaiskis**

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## Is the Supply of Second Pillar Pension Funds and Investment Strategies Sufficient in Lithuania?

The private second pillar pension fund supply, investment strategies and investment risks are analysed in the paper. Additionally, the asset structure and its transformation by different criteria are assessed. The impact of concentration on accumulation results in second pillar pension market is evaluated by applying the model, created by authors. The results show that, current 2nd pillar pension supply is very limited and it is difficult for participants to select appropriate investment strategies during the life-cycle. Despite the diversification of investments area high and service providers' uses different investment strategies, the deviation of investment results are low. Finally target-date pension funds are discussed as the possible solution to current problematic.

#### John Moraros

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#### Lean Implementation in Saskatchewan Canada

Purpose: Lean management is a widely accepted quality improvement methodology initially used in the automotive and manufacturing industries but recently expanded to the healthcare sector. However, there is conflicting evidence on the effectiveness of Lean. This systematic literature review seeks to independently assess the effect of Lean on worker and patient satisfaction, health and process outcomes and financial costs.

Data sources: We conducted a systematic literature review of Medline, PubMed, Cochrane Library, CINAHL, Web of Science, ABI/Inform, ERIC, EMBASE and SCOPUS.

Study selection: Publicly available articles were included if they examined a Lean intervention and included quantitative data.

Data extraction: Methodological quality was assessed using validated critical appraisal checklists. Data collected by the Saskatchewan Health Quality Council and the Saskatchewan Union of Nurses were included for analysis.

Results: Our electronic search identified 21 articles that passed methodological quality review. Among the accepted studies, four were concerned with health outcomes, three included both health and process outcomes, and fourteen included process outcomes. This review found that Lean has: a) no statistically significant association with patient satisfaction and health outcomes, b) a negative association with financial costs and worker satisfaction and c) potential benefits on process outcomes like patient flow.

Conclusion: While there is published evidence to suggest that Lean leads to quality improvements in healthcare, the findings of this review do not support this claim. More rigorous, higher quality and better conducted scientific research is required to definitively ascertain the impact and effectiveness of Lean in health care settings.

#### **Tim Morse**

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#### Which Physical Assessment Skills Do Nurses Require, When Do They Use them and what are the Barriers to Their Use?

It has been recognised that nurses that have knowledge of physical assessment skills can improve patient outcome, but what range of skills and when they are taught has long been debated. For some years, the issue of teaching physical assessment skills to pre-registration nurses has been researched, especially in the USA and Australasia. It has been demonstrated (Secrest *et al* 2005; Giddens 2007; Giddens and Eddy 2009; Birks *et al* 2013; Birks *et al* 2014) that student nurses should be taught a smaller range of physical assessment skills, as very few are actually practiced when they qualify. Two connected reasons for this could be the method of how the skills are taught and subsequently practiced, as students.

In the UK, there has not been any research in to the way physical assessment skills are taught in pre-registration nursing programs or what is then practiced clinically; only some of the recognised range of physical assessment skills are taught to student nurses. However, it is becoming more apparent that as nursing practice evolves; the nurses require a wider range of physical assessment skills as they progress within their careers. As professional boundaries blur, nurses need to broaden the skills they possess, learning from other professionals and taking on the skills that they utilise. These additional skills are sought through courses/ modules once they have qualified as registered nurses, and the need to learn and practice them becomes more relevant.

The time has come for the way that physical assessment skills are taught and practiced in educational institutions, and the barriers to practicing these skills clinically needs to be explored. It is suggested that nurses feel more confident and competent in using these physical assessment skills if they are put in to context with the knowledge they possess, as these are seen as the main barriers to their use. The presentation will draw upon current literature to highlight the possible shortcomings in how nurses are taught physical assessment skills and how they are practiced, and what strategies can be used to improve them.

#### Lejla Mušić

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#### Female Sociology as Academic Discipline: Problems and Gender Based Marginalisation against Female Sociologists

Gender based discrimination against Female sociologist, had influenced segregation and diminishment of Female Sociologists as professionals. Current status of female sociologists, inside the Department of Sociology, is insignificant, in comparison to male professors. Works of female sociologists are rarely celebrated, inside Academia, and are usually outnumbered, and replaced by male professors. Unlike the democratic principles of American sociological Association, that involves presidency of females, investigation in sociological history, are mainly male stream. Focus of this paper is demystification of female stream sociology, and lawful enforcement of change of ideologies inside the Contemporary sociological introductionary readings, and theories. Main idea is that it is necessary for female sociology to be developed as academic discipline, within the corpus of sociological disciplines, in order to offer historical approach to female sociologist accomplishments, as a part of egalitarian education based on gender equality.

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&

#### **Theodore Trafalis**

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## Cyclic Physician Scheduling in Outpatient Clinics using Goal Programming

#### Marcellina Offoha

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#### Remigration of Nigerian Professionals in Diaspora: Benefits and Ethical Challenges

Nigerians are known for their global mobility reaching their highest point during the Nigerian military regimes. Since, the civilian rule, Nigeria is experiencing a remigration of their foreign professionals, especially from Europe and America.

The goal of this research is to give an overview of the challenges and benefits of remigration by Nigerian professionals in Europe and America, especially those planning to return to Nigeria for good. Hypothesis: The longer the number of years spent outside the country (Europe and America) the easier it is to adjust to the Nigerian culture.) A structured questionnaire was distributed to five hundred Nigerians from Diaspora teaching in Nigerian Universities from 1999 to 2014. Series of information sought from respondents include: 1) culture shock, 2) discrimination, 3) level of productivity, 4) Satisfaction and 5) possible regrets. Results showed that all the respondents had a minimum of Bachelors degree and are from 30 to 75 years of age with a gender ratio of 1:1. 60 % of the respondents are first-born child. All the respondents had a long list of culture shocks; however, prevalent among them is "road rage". Despite the challenges related to relocation, the absence of basic infrastructure such as steady electricity, availability of treated water and well equipped hospitals are but a few that the respondents were highly dissatisfied with. Respondents stated one form of discrimination or the other that they experienced from native professionals with "isolation" and "ideas rejection" ranking the highest.

The Hypothesis that "The longer the number of years spent outside the country (Europe and America) the easier it is to adjust to the Nigerian culture" was significant. 90% of those who spent 20-30 years prior to returning rated their cultural adjustment 8 on a 10-point scale, where 1 signify poor cultural adjustment.

It is recommended that the Federal government create jobs that will bring home more professionals and at the same time create an enabling environment. This will help boost their level of productivity that will in turn help in national development.

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# Factors Mitigating Access to HIV Treatment, Prevention and Care Services among Urban Poor in Nigeria: Lessons from AIDS Healthcare Foundation Impact

Nigeria currently has the second highest number of person living with HIV/AIDs in the world with numerous factors that impede the implementation of quality HIV/AIDS programmes. Bridging the gap, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) provided emerging strategies with evidence-based outcomes to enhance quality and comprehensive HIV/AIDS treatment, care, Prevention and HIV counseling and testing (HCT) uptake in Gbajimba, Benue State .

**Methods:** A Cross-sectional descriptive study was adopted to build partnership between the government and urban leaders were formed through strong advocacy. Advocacy was approached from a conceptual framework which includes technical and political contents, stimulating a discussion on the role of government and civil society organizations in promoting greater involvement and ownership of the program. AIDs Healthcare Foundation (AHF) priority areas were selected to set up an advocacy agenda.

**Results:** Through strong advocacy, Aids Healthcare Foundation has successfully carried out HIV counseling and testing the urban areas of the state. Most of these council wards had no prior access to HIV testing. Advocacy and mobilization has resulted in massive community support, with resources provided by community members for many activities. Uptake of HIV services has increased drastically from 10% to 69% within 3years reaching over 104,155 urban poor. 54% were male while 46% females have been tested through facility based and urban outreaches. 6% tested HIV positive and 5% were initiated on antiretroviral therapy.

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Conclusion: A discussion about the role of government and civil society organizations is a fundamental matter for the development of advocacy efforts on the provision of quality HIV testing and care services among urban poor. Advocacy strategies and activities are relevant in promoting the uptake of HIV services, while providing a better environment for the development of programs and activities. Advocacy strategies can modify government's action by making them become participating members in HIV/AIDS related issues and contributing to reduce vulnerability.

### **Gregory T. Papanikos**President, ATINER, Greece

## The Simple Arithmetic of Greek Social Spending, Public Wages, Government Deficits and Sovereign Debt

#### Gerardo Pastore

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#### Paradoxes of the Knowledge Society. Some Considerations on the Italian Situation

For the past several years, politicians and scholars have been attentive to the directions of development of contemporary societies by discussing the need to move towards a Knowledge Society. When we discuss about Knowledge Society, we should consider a series of contradictory processes, such as the financialization of the economy, the new-net-knowledge economy, the transformations of the labor market, the multiplication of the forms of communication and then the consequent redefinition of the relationship between the individual and society.

Starting from a concept of permanent education, put forward by UNESCO in the Seventies, and goes on with the most recent "Lisbon Strategy" the plan seems to be clear: "becoming the most competitive and dynamic knowledge based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion". However, despite successes in some important sectors, the ongoing evaluation of the Lisbon Strategy highlighted the difficulties in economical growth, employment and innovation, especially in the largest euro zone economies. The ongoing financial crisis has deepened the problems. Hence the relaunching of the "Europe 2020 Strategy", as a way out of the crisis, in line with the Lisbon proposals, confirms that the path towards the Knowledge Society is inevitable. This paper intends to present some paradoxical aspects within the Italian route towards the Knowledge Society and to propose a critical analysis of the problematic transition from theory to practice of the Knowledge Society. According to the statistics released by OECD and EUROSTAT, Italy is very late because of an evident contradiction: even though the idea of a knowledge society is rhetorically celebrated, public resources for strategic sectors remain insufficient. Is there a shift from illusion of progress to disappointment?

#### **Anita Rakic**

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#### Impact of Microbiological Media on Quality Microbiological Finding

The contemporary society, pressured by globalization, requires accurate and reliable but above all comparable results. An important tool to achieve comparability is ensurance of result traceability. The goal of each diagnostic microbiological laboratory, whose work is based on methods of cultivation of bacteria, is to set up fast and reliable microbiological diagnosis. In bacteriology, cultivation and reproduction of MM is the foundation of direct proof of bacteria from samples so the accuracy in preparation of the MM is imperative. Testing laboratories determine control procedures of MM prepared from dehydrated base as well as the ways to control technological processes of preparation according to DIN EN ISO 11133:2014. To prepare MM dehydrated bases that are produced in accordance with the wording of the pharmacopoeia (EP, USP) and reference to international standards (ISO, APHA) are used. The physical parameters that are controlled by the MM are: the pH value, the thickness of the plates, filling volume, color, clarity, consistency. The microbiological parameters that are controlled include sterility and productivity and selectivity of the certified reference material (CRM). CRM contain microorganisms of stable characteristics that are typical for a particular microbial species, and is suitable for proving the effectiveness of a particular MM and was purchased from internationally acknowledged collections. Quality microbiological media is one of the most important factors in the work of microbiological laboratories for bacteriological diagnosis. A proper implementation of the technological process of preparing is one of the key requirements in the system of implementation of quality control of the MM. The ISO/IEC 17025 international standard require from laboratories to evaluate the measurement uncertainties of their results. An excessive measurement uncertainty calls into question the possibility of making the right decision bassed on these results (it refers to making a precise diagnosis or estimating therapeutic efficacy).

#### William Sampson

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#### Chicago Charter Schools' Real Reform or Rip-Off?

For a number of years many conservatives' thinkers and political leaders have supported charter schools as a way to better educate poor non-white students, particularly in large cities. Charter schools were conceived by Albert Shanker, a prominent school labor leader, as a positive alternative to failing regular public schools. They are publicly funded, but privately operated, and do not have many of the restrictions common to regular public schools. It is thought that without such restrictions the charters may be more creative, innovative, and responsive to the needs of poor and minority students who do not tend to do well in regular public schools.

Conservatives tend to like and support them because it is thought that they can be more competitive than regular schools, and that the competition will necessarily result in better outcomes, and the elimination of public schools that do not perform well. The freedom to innovate, it is thought, will result in better outcomes. Liberals tend to oppose charters because they take money from the regular public schools, and do not have the same level of accountability as the regular schools. They also are relatively free to select the students who attend them. They can therefore take the better, more motivated students, and leave to the regular public schools the lower performing students.

My research compares the student test scores of charter school students with those of regular school students in the same areas in Chicago. It seeks to determine the degree to which the charter schools are in fact better than the regular schools. If they are not, then why do they exist?

#### Antonio Scala

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&

#### Pietro Auconi

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#### Complex Networks for data-Driven Medicine

Big Data is impacting and will impact even most sectors of our life's. In particular, the healthcare industry could be revolutionized by Big Data analytics since it could improve its operational efficiencies, could help predict disease epidemics and plan responses, enhance the monitoring of clinical trials and in general optimize healthcare spending [1-2]. Starting from examples from orthodontic data [3-5], we will show how applying complex networks' analysis help to visualise.

#### Moshe Sharabi

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# Life Domains Preferences among Women and Men according to Organizational Status and the Impact of Demographic Factors

This contemporary study, which compares middle managers, junior managers and workers according to gender, aim to reveal how they balance the five life domains: work, family, leisure, community and religion. The "Meaning of Work" questionnaire was conducted on 1,201 participants. Out of them, 928 were employed in organizations in middle managerial, junior managerial and worker positions. 453 were men and 475 were women. The findings indicate that the centrality of family is higher among women than among men in the three organizational levels. However, in the new millennium, for the first time in Israel, no traditional gender differences were found in work centrality, not among middle or junior managers and not even among workers. Since women middle managers don't give up on domestic duties while having high family centrality, they balance this need by reducing work hours and the leisure domain, compared to women junior level managers and especially compared to men counterparts. Human resource (HR) professionals have to take into consideration the increasing work centrality among working women at all organizational levels and should implement flexible hours and Work-Life Balance (WLB) programs to decrease work-family conflict, especially among women managers.

#### Lawrence Sithole

Optometrist, University of South Africa, South Africa

## An Overview of the National Health Insurance (NHI) and Its Possible Impact on Eye Health Care Services in South Africa

The National Health Insurance (NHI) is an important development that underpins democracy in South Africa. It seeks to redress the inequalities of public health care delivery by implementing transformative policies with the aim of forming an inclusive public health care coverage for the entire population in South Africa with more emphasis on health promotion. The implementation of this initiative has created some hope among primary eye health care professionals such as optometrists that their profession may finally be given the recognition it presumably deserves. Although the government is contemplating introducing a new directorate for eye health care issues and the formulation of an advisory committee to the Minister of Health on eye health care issues, the extent to which eye health care will be incorporated into the NHI is currently not clear. It is believed that the white paper policy on NHI will shed some light on these issues. Unfortunately, current indications are that the initiative has to overcome serious challenges such as poor infrastructure, budgetary constraints and lack of interest from other health care professionals. Furthermore, issues of corruption may also need to be addressed if the NHI is to be implemented successfully. Despite these challenges, the NHI remains a positive proposition for universal health coverage for the people of South Africa and there is hope that primary eye care providers such as optometrists and other eye care professionals will also play more of a major role in the NHI than they currently do in the public health care system.

#### Annamaria Uzzoli

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## Changes of Health Inequalities in Space and Time in the Post-socialist Period of Hungary

The marked deterioration in the health of the Hungarian population has been going on since the middle of the 1960s. The general health status is worse than justified by the level of economic development. From 1989 essential political, economic and social changes took place in East–Central Europe as well as in Hungary. The social effects of this transformation such as the acute problems of unemployment and poverty among low-income population groups have gone together with a 'health recession'. Jointly the role of the epidemiological, the demographic and the recent economic crisis have shown some unique trends in the Hungarian health indicators over recent years.

The main aim of the paper is to describe health conditions through health inequalities in Hungary, and it is still worth explaining how the health situation has changed in terms of space and time in the last 25years. The territorial range of the paper includes the level of the Hungarian counties and micro-regions. The examined period covered by the begins of the 1990s until the year of 2012 which can give a hand to define health effects of the transition as well as the consequences of the recent crisis on health. The statistical analysis is based on the use of mortality and life expectancy indicators.

The Hungarian health indicators have been reflecting a particularly unfavourable tendency for a number of decades. The mortality statistics sadly qualify the country for the international vanguard. The unfavourable health is characterised partly by mortality and morbidity data which are outstandingly high in the international comparison, and mainly by the high occurrence of risk factors.

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## Taking a Closer Look at Exposure to Community Violence among Low Income African American Youth in Chicago

**Background:** The United States relative to other high resourced countries reports the highest rates of youth exposure to community violence. Adolescents report the highest rates of such exposures and those who are African Americans bear the greatest burden. Despite bearing such high burdens of exposure, few studies have explored factors related to subtypes of exposures to community violence (i.e., no exposure, witnessing only and being a witness/victim) among African American youth. This was the aim of this study.

**Methods:** Chicago has the highest rates of youth homicides. Among a paired sample of 129 African American youth and their caregivers, demographics, youth and parental factors were assessed. Latent class analyses and logistic regressions were computed to identify significant correlates of youth exposure to community violence.

Results: Youth reported exposure to community violence with regards to witnessing or being mugged, gang and gun violence and seeing dead bodies in their communities not related to a funeral. Major findings indicated that no exposure to community violence was correlated with being heterosexual versus LGBT, having parents who owned their homes versus rented, and having higher authoritarian parenting. In addition, witnessing community violence was correlated with less youth substance use, and having parents who held less authoritarian parenting attitudes. Finally, being a witness/victim of community violence was correlated with any youth substance use, lower levels of school bonding, having less future orientation, less parental home ownership, and an adverse family history.

**Conclusion:** This study identified important correlates of various subtypes of exposures to community violence and highlights practice and programmatic considerations based on these findings.

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#### Towards a Framework for Sustainable Health Care

This study examines sustainability in health care delivery and provides a framework for developing and achieving sustainability in health care. The study analyzes both quantitative and qualitative data to postulate that sustainable health care should be based on a number of factors including resources, planning, consultation and partnership with stakeholders, community factors etc. The study emphasizes the point that the notion that sustainability in health care is based just on finance is a myth. The study argues that sustainable health should be based on a number of key factors including those mentioned above. These factors, the study concludes, transcend social (including demographic and educational factors), cultural, economic and political factors. The study contends that the existing sociocultural, economic and political institutions in the community have the potential to support the achievement of sustainable health care and should be explored. It is the conclusion of the study that sustainability in health care is achievable but that the planning, provision and management of health care are of utmost importance.

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## Autistic Spectrum Disorder Today in Libya Five Years' Experience

ABSTRACT: Hospital based study of all children referred to Neurodevelopment Clinic of Al-Khadra Hospital, Tripoli, Libya (NDC-KH) between year 2010 and 2014 with the diagnosis of either Speech or Language delay (SALD), or behavioral difficulties.

AIMS: 1. To estimate and compare the prevalence of autistic spectrum disorders in children attending the Neurodevelopment Clinic of Al- Khadra Hospital (NDC-KH) with SALD or behavioral difficulties between January 2010 and December 2014.

2. To help policy planners and service providers get on with the task of improving the funding, type and quality of services required for these children and their families living in our community.

METHODS: A comparison review of ASD diagnoses was made among children attending the NDC-KH with SALD between the years 2010 and 2014.

RESULTS: The total number of children seen in Paediatrics Out-patient Department (POPD) between year 2010 and 2014 were 306748 out of whom 2809 children were referred for ASD assessment and whose ages "ranged from younger than 2 years to 10 years of age". ASD were diagnosed in 73% (2041 children) which gives the prevalence of 7:1000.

CONCLUSION: The prevalence of the problem is probably higher and probably similar to that seen in USA and UK. No data were available from the Arab countries or other developing counties. Autism is an important differential diagnosis of any language disorder "and behavioral difficulties". We highlights the need for accurate incidence and prevalence estimates in order to adequately plan for the current and future needs of people with an ASD thereby enabling them to maximize their potential to participate in their communities. Although our findings are preliminary, hospital based and the first to be conducted in Libya, they indicate the need for decision-makers to plan services and research the problem of ASDs countrywide.

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## The Basis for Establishing Youth Studies as an Independent Academic Discipline

Youth Studies focuses on independent research on youth which has been going on in China for over a century. The efforts to make such research recognized as an academic discipline have continued for more than 30 years. However, no consensus has been reached among theorists or researchers to recognize youth studies as an independent discipline. In order to establish such a status, we need to employ the theory and methodology of discipline classification. Examining its status from a single perspective is not enough. Therefore, the legitimacy of youth studies as an independent discipline can be justified from four dimensions, i.e. definition, criteria, disciplinary system, and organizational system. Since there are other cohort studies such as women's studies and gerontology, it is necessary to establish youth studies as an independent discipline. If such a status is recognized by the academia and education authorities, youth studies will be included in the curricula of many universities and more outstanding people will engage in youth studies. That will foster a shift of focus from issues to theory in youth research, thus raising its theoretical level and advancing its development.

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#### Short Form of Intercultural Sensitivity Scale C (ISS-15): Conceptual Framework and Scale Validation

With ever expanding globalization in the 21st Century, developing citizen's intercultural understanding and communication capability has been one of the missions of the government or educational institutions to well prepare the citizens for this new era (Wang & Kulich, 2015). In China, national guidelines have been updated toward integrating intercultural communication competence into education (Kulich & Wang, 2015). The development of this competence is an ongoing process acquired through intercultural interaction. During this process, individuals become increasingly intercultural sensitive and competent when they are exposed to or experience cultural differences. Hence, sensitivity to cultural differences develop intercultural competency (Chen & Starosta, 2000) and perceive to facilitate sojourners' cross-cultural adjustment internationally (Awang-Rozaimie et al., 2013). Researchers have made great effort to examine this process in terms of how how intercultural sensitivity is structured (Peng, 2006) and how it is affected by other factors (Monthienvichienchai et al., 2002). Self-reports is the main tool for collecting such information.

Among the wide variety of scales measuring intercultural sensitivity, the Intercultural Sensitivity Scale (ISS) by Chen and Starosta (2000) has been the most widely used. The scale consists of 24 items, of which 7 are for interaction engagement, 6 for respect of cultural differences, 5 for interaction confidence, and 3 for interaction enjoyment and 3 for interaction attentiveness. The factor structure of this scale has been tested in various cultural groups including American, German, Malaysian, and Chinese. Met cognition is associated with a wide range of psychological and motivational variables. Because it is very common to measure other cognitive or affective variables at the same time of measuring intercultural sensitivity, researchers would need to measure the construct within a relatively long survey package. However, ISS is restricted in its application by its length. One way to improve research utility of the measure could be to reduce the number of items and hone in on a smaller and focused subset of items without losing strong psychometric value.

To provide a shorter measure of intercultural sensitivity for contexts with limited time constraints, we abbreviated the 24-item Intercultural Sensitivity Scale to a 15-item version (ISS-15). To permit its use in a non-English speaking culture, the ISS-15 was translated into Chinese and examined in Mainland China. Overall, results indicated that ISS-15 retained significant levels of reliability and validity. Confirmatory factor analyses showed greatly improved fits of the data for the short form ( $\chi^2$ =2.22, p<001, CFI=.91, IFI=92,

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RMSEA=065), compared to its original form ( $\chi^2$ =2.77, p < 001, CFI=78, IFI=78, RMSEA=079). The five subscales in ISS-15 also obtained acceptable internal consistency (ranging from .60 to .73). Hence, the Chinese version of ISS-15 was found valid and reliable to be sufficient for social science and sociology research settings with truly limited time constraints.