



THE ATHENS INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

# Abstract Book

**9<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on  
Social Sciences  
25-28 July 2022, Athens, Greece**

**Edited by  
Philip G. Cerny & Olga Gkounta**

2022



9<sup>th</sup> Annual International  
Conference on Social Sciences  
25-28 July 2022, Athens, Greece

Edited by Philip G. Cerny &  
Olga Gkounta

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## Preface

This book includes the abstracts of all the papers presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Social Sciences (25-28 July 2022), organized by the Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER).

A full conference program can be found before the relevant abstracts. In accordance with ATINER's Publication Policy, the papers presented during this conference will be considered for inclusion in one of ATINER's many publications only after a blind peer review process.

The purpose of this abstract book is to provide members of ATINER and other academics around the world with a resource through which they can discover colleagues and additional research relevant to their own work. This purpose is in congruence with the overall mission of the association. ATINER 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 can meet to exchange ideas on their research and consider the future developments of their fields of study.

To facilitate the communication, a new references section includes all the abstract books published as part of this conference (Table 1). I invite the readers to access these abstract books –these are available for free– and compare how the themes of the conference have evolved over the years. According to ATINER's mission, the presenters in these conferences are coming from many different countries, presenting various topics.

**Table 1.** *Publication of Books of Abstracts of Proceedings, 2014-2022*

Year	Papers	Countries	References
2022	36	22	Cerny PG and Gkounta O (2022)
2021	27	15	<a href="#">Papanikos (2021)</a>
2020	16	12	<a href="#">Papanikos (2020)</a>
2019	55	26	<a href="#">Papanikos (2019)</a>
2018	31	18	<a href="#">Papanikos (2018)</a>
2017	39	18	<a href="#">Papanikos (2017)</a>
2016	29	15	<a href="#">Papanikos (2016)</a>
2015	36	15	<a href="#">Papanikos (2015)</a>
2014	42	23	<a href="#">Papanikos (2014)</a>

It is our hope that through ATINER's conferences and publications, Athens will become a place where academics and researchers from all over the world can regularly meet to discuss the developments of their

disciplines and present their work. Since 1995, ATINER has organized more than 400 international conferences and has published over 200 books. Academically, the institute is organized into 6 divisions and 35 units. Each unit organizes at least one annual conference and undertakes various small and large research projects.

For each of these events, the involvement of multiple parties is crucial. I would like to thank all the participants, the members of the organizing and academic committees, and most importantly the administration staff of ATINER for putting this conference and its subsequent publications together. Specific individuals are listed after the Editors' Note.

**Gregory T. Papanikos**  
**President**

## **Editors' Note**

These abstracts provide a vital means to the dissemination of scholarly inquiry in the field of Social Sciences. The breadth and depth of research approaches and topics represented in this book underscores the diversity of the conference.

ATINER's mission is to bring together academics from all corners of the world in order to engage with each other, brainstorm, exchange ideas, be inspired by one another, and once they are back in their institutions and countries to implement what they have acquired. The 9th Annual International Conference on Social Sciences accomplished this goal by bringing together academics and scholars from 22 different countries (Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, India, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Oman, Romania, Serbia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, UK, and USA), which brought in the symposium the perspectives of many different country approaches and realities in the field.

Publishing this book can help that spirit of engaged scholarship continue into the future. With our joint efforts, the next editions of this conference will be even better. We hope that this abstract book as a whole will be both of interest and of value to the reading audience.

**Philip G. Cerny & Olga Gkounta**  
**Editors**

## **9<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Social Sciences, 25-28 July 2022, Athens, Greece**

### **Organizing & Scientific Committee**

All ATINER's conferences are organized by the Academic Council. This conference has been organized with the assistance of the following academic members of ATINER, who contributed by reviewing the submitted abstracts and papers.

1. Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER & Honorary Professor, University of Stirling, U.K.
2. Philip G. Cerny, Director, Social Sciences Division, ATINER & Professor Emeritus, University of Manchester (UK) and Rutgers University (USA).
3. Chris Sakellariou, Vice President of Finance, ATINER & Associate Professor of Economics, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.
4. Domenico Maddaloni, Head, Sociology Unit, ATINER & Professor, University of Salerno, Italy.
5. George S. Tsagaris, Associate Professor, Cleveland State University, USA.
6. Thanos Patelis, Head, Psychology Unit of ATINER & Director of Test Development and Assessment, Johns Hopkins Center For Talented Youth & Psychometrician, Achievement and Assessment Institute, University of Kansas, USA.
7. John Pavlik, Head, Mass Media and Communication Unit, ATINER & Professor, Rutgers University, USA.
8. Ilja A. Luciak, Head, Anthropology & Demography Unit, ATINER & Professor, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, USA.

# FINAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

9<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Social Sciences, 25-28 July 2022,  
Athens, Greece

## PROGRAM

Monday 25 July 2022

09.00-09.30

Registration

09:30-10:00

**Opening and Welcoming Remarks:**

- **Gregory T. Papanikos**, President, ATINER
- **Dr. Philip G. Cerny**, Director, Social Sciences Division, ATINER & Professor Emeritus, University of Manchester (UK) and Rutgers University (USA)

### 10:00-11:30 TIME SLOT 1 - MORNING PRESENTATIONS

**Coordinator: Utku Özer**, Research Fellow, ATINER.

1. **Burak Dogu**, Director, Izmir University of Economics, Turkey.  
*Title: Geothermal Politics: A Comparative Analysis of the News Media Coverage and Locals' Frames on Geothermal Resources in the Buyuk Menderes Basin.*
2. **Annalisa Pace**, Associate Professor, University of Teram, Italy.  
**Martina D'Ignazio**, PhD Student, University of Teramo, Italy.  
*Title: The Nutritional Taxation: An Effective Tool against Obesity and Beyond?*
3. **Seppo Poutanen**, Senior Research Fellow, University of Turku, Finland.  
*Title: European Doctoral Researchers in Business and Organisation Studies Telling about the Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on their Work - A Qualitative Study.*

### 11:30-13:00 TIME SLOT 2 -NOON PRESENTATIONS

**Coordinator: Seppo Poutanen**, Senior Research Fellow, University of Turku, Finland.

1. **Lisa Lewis**, Professor, Austin Peay State University, USA.  
*Title: Dance and Neuroscience Research.*
2. **Kashef Zayed**, Professor, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman.  
*Title: Investigation of the Prevalent Types of Multiple Intelligences among Regular Sports Exercisers in Oman.*
3. **Maria Kosma**, Associate Professor, Louisiana State University, USA.  
*Title: Reconsidering the Push for Digitized Physical Activity Education in Lieu of the Intrinsic Value of Embodied Action.*

### 13:00-14:30 TIME SLOT 3 - AFTERNOON PRESENTATIONS

**Coordinator: Maria Kosma**, Associate Professor, Louisiana State University, USA.

1. **Lorenzo Dalvit**, Associate Professor, Rhodes University, South Africa.  
*Title: Towards a Decolonial Curriculum for a Critical Digital Media Masters Course in South Africa.*

**Coordinator: Patrick Brecht**, Researcher, Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences, Germany.

1. **Francine Vachon**, Associate Professor, Brock University, Canada.  
*Title: Data and Confidentiality Leaks Reported in Canada in 2020-2021.*
2. **Moshe Yitzhaki**, Professor, Bar-Ilan

<p>2. <b>Thomas Pettinato</b>, PhD Candidate, University of Milan-Bicocca, Italy. <i>Title: Modern Slavery: a System of Exploitation. Study on Vulnerability Factors' Dynamics.</i></p> <p>3. <b>Denise Comer</b>, Professor, Duke University, USA. <i>Title: Interdisciplinary Pedagogies &amp; Epistemologies: Designing a Wellness Course.</i></p>	<p>University, Israel. <i>Title: Is there a Future for the Book?: A Case Study of Sub-Cultural Children's Literature in Israel</i></p> <p>3. <b>Ying Lu</b>, Director, Chengdu Library and Information Center, Chinese Academy of Sciences China. <i>Title: User Analysis and Development Suggestions of Subject Services Based on the Integration of Document Data and Scientific Data.</i></p> <p>4. <b>Marija Bulatovic</b>, Librarian Advisor, University library Svetozar Markovic, Serbia. <i>Title: Academic Libraries" E – Journal of Serbian Academic Library Association.</i></p>
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14:30-16:00

Lunch

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16:00-17:30 TIME SLOT 4 - AFTERNOON PRESENTATIONS

**Coordinator: Kostas Spyropoulos** (ATINER Administrator).

1. **Dmitry Erokhin**, Research Assistant, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Austria.  
*Title: Futures of Shipping in the Arctic until 2050.*
2. **Dibyangana Chakraborty**, PhD Scholar, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, India.  
*Title: An Exploration of the Tribal Rubber Growers' Livelihood Capitals in Assam, India.*
3. **Carolyn King**, Programme Leader; Religion, Culture & Society (BA & MA Courses), University of Central Lancashire, UK.  
*Title: Religion, Culture & Society: The Key to Understanding Diversity.*

17:30-19:00 TIME SLOT 5 - AFTERNOON PRESENTATIONS

**Coordinator: Olga Gkounta**, Researcher, ATINER.

1. **Marija Iles**, Teaching and Research Assistant, University of Osijek, Croatia.  
*Title: Reproductive Changes in the Population of the Republic of Croatia.*
2. **Giuseppe De Luca Picione**, Professor, University of Naples Federico II, Italy.  
**Domenico Trezza**, Researcher, University of Naples Federico II, Italy.  
**Lucia Fortini**, Adjunct Professor, University of Naples Federico II, Italy.  
*Title: Ok Boomer. Ageing in the Politics and Politicians Discourses on Social Media.*
3. **Keitha Burnett**, Coordinator, Gulliver Preparatory School, USA.  
*Title: The Power of Purposeful Portfolios in Social Science: An Inclusive Approach to Comprehensive Teaching.*
4. **Georgios Lampropoulos**, Core Faculty, Michigan School of Psychology, USA.  
*Title: Predictors of Vaccine Hesitancy, Face Mask Use, and Other Precautionary Behaviors during the COVID-19 Pandemic.*

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20:30-22:30

Greek Night

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**Tuesday 26 July 2022**

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**07:45-10:45 TIME SLOT 6 – Old and New-An Educational Urban Walk**

The urban walk ticket is not included as part of your registration fee. It includes transportation costs and the cost to enter the Parthenon and the other monuments on the Acropolis Hill. The urban walk tour includes the broader area of Athens. Among other sites, it includes: Zappeion, Syntagma Square, Temple of Olympian Zeus, Ancient Roman Agora and on Acropolis Hill: the Propylaea, the Temple of Athena Nike, the Erechtheion, and the Parthenon. The program of the tour may be adjusted, if there is a need beyond our control. This is a private event organized by ATINER exclusively for the conference participants.

**11:00-12:30 TIME SLOT 7 – NOON PRESENTATIONS**

**Coordinator: Kashef Zayed**, Professor, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman.

1. **Rafael Carvajal**, Professor, University of Costa Rica, Costa Rica.  
*Title: Acute Effect of Warm-Up With Small-Sided Games on Sports Performance.*
2. **Insook Kim**, Associate Professor, Kent State University, USA.  
*Title: Evidence-Based Practices for Developing Physical Education Teachers' Depth of Content Knowledge.*
3. **Donna Comissiong**, Senior Lecturer, The University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago.  
*Title: An Analysis of Passing Networks in Football.*

**12:30-14:30 TIME SLOT 8 – AFTERNOON PRESENTATIONS**

**Coordinator: Insook Kim**, Associate Professor, Kent State University, USA.

1. **Sara Nosari**, Professor, University of Turin, Italy.  
*Title: The Brain Teaser of Creativity: The Solution of 3RPlay's Educational Practices.*
2. **Adam Pitluk**, Assistant Professor, Coastal Carolina University, USA.  
**Wendy Weinhold**, Associate Professor, Coastal Carolina University, USA.  
*Title: Off Thin Ice: After Decades of Media Abuse, it Took Hollywood to Repair Tonya Harding's Image and Reputation.*
3. **Juan Zornoza**, Associate Professor, National University of Colombia, Colombia.  
*Title: Institutional Weakness and Extractivist Policies in Latin America in the XXI Century. Analysis of Deforestation and Environmental Conflicts in Bolivia, Brazil and Colombia.*
4. **Claudio Corrêa**, Head of Research, Brazilian Naval War College, Brazil.  
*Title: From Prospective Research to Futures Literacy: Out of the Box and Forward Looking Practices in Defence.*
5. **Tamara Huber**, Researcher & PhD Student, Karlsruhe Institute for Technology (KIT) / Chair of Innovation and Technology Management (iTm), Germany.  
*Title: The Concept of Tipping Points and the Importance of Corporate Foresight.*
6. **David Kalisz**, Dean, Paris School of Business, France.  
*Title: Intentions and behaviour in AI Integrated Healthcare Systems.*

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**14:30-16:00**

**Lunch**

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**16:00-17:30 TIME SLOT 9 – AFTERNOON PRESENTATIONS**

**Coordinator: Kostas Spyropoulos** (ATINER Administrator).

1. **Christina Frese**, Researcher, University of Stuttgart, Germany.  
*Title: Chronic Knee Pain in Volleyball.*
2. **Ordean Mircea-Nicolae**, Lecturer, 1 December 1918 University of Alba Iulia, Romania.  
*Title: Develop Focusing Attention, Perception and Distributive Attention through a Dance Program-Therapy.*
3. **Veselin Vasilev**, Assistant Professor, Medical University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria.  
*Title: Changes in Some Blood Lipid Variables after 8 Week Training and Ostarine Administration.*
4. **Numan Alpay**, Associate Professor, Balıkesir University, Turkey.  
*Title: Effects of Vitamin E Application on IFN- $\gamma$ , TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-2 and IL-6 Levels in Elite Taekwondo Athletes.*

**17:30-19:00 TIME SLOT 10 – AFTERNOON PRESENTATIONS**

**Coordinator: Olga Gkounta**, Researcher, ATINER.

1. **Oscar Diego Salgado Guzman**, Administrator, Mexico.  
*Title: The Impact of Perception in the Decision Making of the Directing.*
2. **Judy Porter**, Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA.  
**LaVerne McQuiller Williams**, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA.  
**Nickolas Robertson**, Associate Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA.  
*Title: The intersection of Sexual Orientation, Auditory Status, Childhood Maltreatment, and Experiences of Sexual, Psychological, and Physical Abuse among Adult College Students.*
3. **Danilo Yanich**, Professor, University of Delaware, USA.  
*Title: Buying Political Reality in the United States.*

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**20:00-21:30**

**Dinner**

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**Wednesday 27 July 2022**  
**Educational Islands Cruise**  
**Mycenae Visit**

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**Thursday 28 July 2022**  
**Delphi Tour**



**Numan Alpay**

Associate Professor, Balikesir University, Turkey

### **Effects of Vitamin E Application on IFN- $\gamma$ , TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-2 and IL-6 Levels in Elite Taekwondo Athletes**

The aim of this study was to investigate the effects of vitamin E application on secretion of cytokine in individuals who do taekwondo sport. This research was carried out on 10 elite taekwondo athletes who were studying in Seljuk University, School of Physical Education and Sports. Their mean age;  $20.67 \pm 0.24$  years and mean body weight was;  $65.45 \pm 1.69$  kg. Every day 300 mg vitamin E (alpha tocopherol acetate) was given to the participants orally during 4 weeks, and exhaustive exercise was done until fatigue occurs before and after vitamin E treatment. Before and following the 4 week implementation period, blood samples were taken 4 times from the participants at rest and fatigue. Interferon gamma (IFN- $\gamma$ ), tumour necrosis factor-alpha (TNF- $\alpha$ ), interleukin -2 (IL-2) and interleukin -6 (IL-6) levels were determined by ELISA test kits on taken blood samples. There were no significant differences on the levels of IFN- $\gamma$  and TNF- $\alpha$  both before and after implementation. On the other hand, levels of serum IL-2 increased in the exercises until fatigue occurs both before and after the implementation ( $P < 0.05$ ). There was significant increase on the levels of serum IL-6 at exercise period in comparison with resting period ( $P < 0.05$ ). This increase in the levels of serum IL-6 at exercise period prior to implementation was prevented by vitamin E application. Results indicated that; vitamin E application did not lead to significant changes on the levels of IFN- $\gamma$ , TNF- $\alpha$  and IL-2 in individuals who practice taekwondo sport. However, vitamin E blunted the increase in levels of IL-6 due to exercise.

**Marija Bulatovic**

Librarian Advisor, University Library "Svetozar Markovic", Serbia  
&

**Vera Petrovic**

University Library "Svetozar Markovic", Serbia

### **"Academic Libraries" E-Journal of Serbian Academic Library Association**

E-Journal of Academic libraries is the professional journal of the Serbian Academic Library Association. It was first published in 2004, on the recommendation of the Section for Library Association of the International Federation of Library Associations IFLA. Journal is published in the paper and electronic form, all the way to No. 5 in 2006. Since No. 6 it is published only in electronic form. So far, 67 issues have been published with news, interviews, conference presentations and professional and informative articles.

Editorial board and editorial magazine is located in the University Library "Svetozar Markovic" in Belgrade. All functions are performed by voluntary contributions and noncommercial.

The main aim of journals is to regularly report on the activities of members of the Serbian Academic Library Association and bring interesting contributions to the library and the general public, with special emphasis on contributions from libraries throughout the region and interviews with representatives of scientific and professional public from the country and the world. The best possible cooperation was established between all interested parties and in order for the knowledge of library activities to reach as wide a circle of readers as possible.

Librarians in all academic libraries in Serbia send attachments on the implementation and results of information technology, as well as papers for the promotion of librarianship in general. Applying international standards in their own way of doing business, of which there are about 350 librarians in academic libraries, they are part of the international community, the library association, which has its own professional journal.

The electronic journal of academic libraries and its associates provides professional information and continuous progress in librarianship. The editorial policy is that the professional e-journal grows over time into a top journal in the field of librarianship. All issues of the magazine are available at:

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[http://www.unilib.bg.ac.rs/zajednica01/izdanja/visokoskolske\\_biblioteke/index.php](http://www.unilib.bg.ac.rs/zajednica01/izdanja/visokoskolske_biblioteke/index.php).

**Keitha Burnett**

Coordinator, Gulliver Preparatory School, USA

## **The Power of Purposeful Portfolios in Social Science: An Inclusive Approach to Comprehensive Teaching**

Many social science educators find it increasingly difficult to have class discussions/debates without being offensive to someone, particularly in government. It has become commonplace in secondary schools, colleges, and universities where students scrutinize educators' comments or lessons as racist, misogynistic, or biased. Many of these complaints may have credibility, but it has had a chilling effect on academic expression. The increase of political polarization with the over-reliance on social media has driven multiple wedges in what used to be part of healthy classroom discussions.

Educators must move away from traditional methods of teaching that are primarily teacher-centered, such as lectures and exams, to a more student-centered, inquiry-driven classroom. Advocates of student-centered pedagogy generally proceed from the constructivist position that maintains that learners construct their understandings through their actions and experiences on the world (Mascolo, 2009). The key to any successful transition to a student-centered approach is planning, formulating appropriate questions, aligning standards focusing on the larger picture, creating opportunities for presentations, and a time for student reflection. The stated measures should not stifle questioning in the classroom. Still, they should increase the appropriate level of inquiry since the students formulate their questions within the boundaries of the standards.

Portfolios traditionally are used in the visual arts as an assessment and evaluation tool, but they have become increasingly used in various settings and disciplines. Still, there have been conceptual issues and empirical evidence (Davies and LeMahieu, 2003). Students naturally have an affinity to their visual arts productions. Through trial and error, I have identified eight key components for a social science portfolio: personal profile, philosophy of government, journal entries, observations, current events, multi-media presentations, research, and reflections driven by a theme or issue selected by the student.

For the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year, I required 50+ students to develop a government portfolio. The students attend a private non-religious college preparatory school in a suburban city. It took approximately three weeks of orientation to ensure that all students understood the concept of a portfolio and could create and

develop one effectively. The effectiveness of the portfolio will be measured using a comparison group, surveys, and field notes.

**Rafael Carvajal**

Professor, University of Costa Rica, Costa Rica

&

**Walter Salazar**

Director of Physical Education and Sports, School University of Costa  
Rica, Costa Rica

## **Acute Effect of Warm-up with Small-sided Games on Sports Performance**

This research aims to examine the acute effect of no warm-up versus small-sided games exercises warm-up over the performance on a Change of Direction Test (Illinois Agility Test), the ability associated with team-sport performance. The use of small-sided games before the main competitions presents itself as a valid strategy for improving performance. These benefits resulted from combined strategies of small-sided games with passive rest. A total of seventy-one male subjects participated in the study between players from the national teams and university students from regular sport class. The study was a **randomized crossover trial** designed to determine whether there is a difference in change of direction test performance between a previous warm-up versus no warm-up. All participants completed two conditions, warm-up and no warm-up, according to the random order assigned. An analysis of variance in three ways with repeated measures in two factors was conducted to analyze data. This study concludes that the warm-up with small-sided games is not the causal factor in a change of direction test performance.

**Dibyangana Chakraborty**

PhD Scholar, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, India

## **An Exploration of the Tribal Rubber Growers' Livelihood Capitals in Assam, India**

Rubber plantation has been crucial in providing permanent settlement-based livelihoods to the erstwhile hill dwelling, shifting cultivation-dependent Tribal communities of North-East India. This paper aims to look into the overall livelihood capitals status of the people belonging to the scheduled tribe (S.T.) community who are owners of Rubber plantations in Goalpara district of Assam, a prominent North-Eastern state of India. The paper broadly follows Department for International Development's (DFID) Sustainable Livelihood Framework (SLF) for analyzing the capital or assets status of these Rubber growers. 23 variables (called as sub-components in the paper) are used under 5 capital indices (physical, human, natural, financial and social). These indices together constitute Livelihood index (L.I.), which gives an idea of the overall livelihood capital conditions of the growers. Non-Tribal Rubber growers of Karimganj district of Assam are used as the control group here. The sample size is decided to be 300, 164 from ST community of Goalpara and rest from non-ST communities of Karimganj. The capital indices and the LI of the Tribal growers are found to be higher than their counterparts in Karimganj district, thereby reflecting better capital status of the former community. The significance of the deviance between the Tribal and non-Tribal communities' livelihood capital indices are tested using Wilcoxon Rank Sum Test. At the end, the paper provides a number of recommendations for further betterment of the livelihood capital conditions of the Tribal Rubber growers in terms of establishment and/or effective operation of Rubber Growers' Societies, Self-Help Groups, etc. among others.

**Denise Comer**

Professor, Duke University, USA

## **Interdisciplinary Pedagogies & Epistemologies: Designing a Wellness Course**

College students have high levels of chronic stress, which often manifest nervousness, irritability, sleep issues, and an inability to concentrate and can cause depression and anxiety, as well as long-term negative impacts in immune, digestive, and reproductive systems (Millett-Thompson, 2017). The pandemic has exacerbated mental-health challenges for college students (Chrikov et al., 2020). To help mitigate these impacts, many postsecondary institutions are now promoting wellbeing as a central element of undergraduate education (Lambert et al., 2019). As part of a range of initiatives designed to encourage undergraduates to reflect on and pursue research about wellbeing, Duke University (Durham, North Carolina, USA) launched in 2017 an interdisciplinary seminar, “Composing Oneself: Stress, Identity, and Wellness,” co-taught by a sociologist and a humanist with expertise in writing studies.

Drawing from and building on research in writing studies, humanities, and social sciences, this presentation shares the pedagogical approaches and epistemologies used to design this interdisciplinary seminar focused on wellness, stress, writing, and identity. The course adopts a multi-dimensional focus fusing science, social science, theory, art, literature, and performance to understand structural causes of stress, their physiological effects, and how stressors impact our identities and community ethics. Through textual analysis and experiential learning, students also explore how arts of wellness, including yoga, mindfulness, and art therapies, impact stress, identity, and ethics. The course also includes guest experts contributing knowledge in biology, neuroscience, implicit bias, MBSR, and koru yoga (a yoga practice tailored for emerging adults). Writing is a core pedagogical feature of the course, as students explore writing within and across disciplines in the social sciences and humanities.

This presentation will describe the interdisciplinary epistemologies and pedagogies informing the course design, including institutional context, in-course assessments and activities, longer-term assessments, and the pedagogical challenges and opportunities. Specific focus will include administrative and pedagogical implications, adaptability, and scalability. The presentation is intended to spark conversation about others’ institutional and curricular approaches to wellness and stress,



particularly involving interdisciplinary approaches across the social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities.

**Donna Comissiong**

Senior Lecturer, The University of the West Indies, Trinidad and  
Tobago

**Jeffrey Leela**

Senior Lecturer, College of Science, Technology & Applied Arts,  
Trinidad and Tobago

&

**Karim Rahaman**

Senior Lecturer, The University of the West Indies, Trinidad and  
Tobago

## **An Analysis of Passing Networks in Football**

In this presentation, we explore the passing network based on the most used formation for both Manchester United and Chelsea during the 2016/2017 Premier League Season. A passing matrix is created which distributes the average passes between players in a game. From this yields the calculation of three centrality measures first explored by López-Peña and Touchette (2012). These measures unlock hidden details about the strengths and weaknesses within the networks. Such include the extent to which a player stays or leaves his position, the ability of a player to affect the game through penetration, and a player's pass distribution evenness within the team. Useful knowledge can be obtained to inform coaching staff and enhance the level of play. Also, the optimal assignment for each network is determined. This involves the application of the Travelling Salesman Problem to establish the least number of passes that keeps all players within each team connected.

**Claudio Corrêa**

Head of Research, Brazilian Naval War College, Brazil

## **From Prospective Research to Futures Literacy: Out of the Box and Forward Looking Practices in Defence**

Although the state and private sphere widely use long-range planning methods for investigating alternative futures, science has shown that for most human beings, it is difficult to think decades ahead. This kind of thinking is a complex process that allows decision makers to anticipate possible behaviors, phenomena, or forces capable of influencing the direction of a certain sector. Many countries have understood the great challenge to be faced in defence foresight activities, trying to engage civilian and military personnel to think together about plausible future environments in order to ameliorate impacts of undesirable futures or exploit coming opportunities. This paper aims to introduce the Simulation and Scenario Laboratory (SSL) and discuss how a military organization can promote outside the box with social engagement in prospective research and foresight practices in defence. It is based on years of teaching futures literacy and participatory methods approach. SSL is, since 2012, the main institutional support for scientific research at the Brazilian Naval War College (EGN), bringing together multidisciplinary researchers, on a voluntary basis, most of them civilians and some military personnel. They are undergraduates to post-doctorates, active or alumni of renowned Higher Education Institutions from Brazil and abroad, linked to academic activities and research lines related, even if indirectly, to the topics of defence and security. Considering that these topics can be affected by a large kind of knowledge areas, The SSL has a Research Line named "Prospective Scenarios for Defence and Security - Methodologies, Trends, and Practices". It is composed by 140 volunteers grouped into 14 diverse research teams as electromagnetic threats, methodological arrangements, Artificial Intelligence, Biodefense etc. Each of them is guided by a Ph.D. with research and practical experience in that area. Annually, the SSL have been promoting defence foresight conferences, publishing books, databases, and papers on foresight. It also conducts a 40hs course open to the society about "Seeds of the Future" (from tiny signs till megatrends) and a discipline of Futures Studies at the EGN Doctorate Program. Today, SSL teams are leading 100 researchers from all over the country at the scientific Brazilian DoD project to build a "Defence Scenarios Monitoring Network", as well as the "Brazilian Navy 2045 Scenarios for

Planning Force Project". Discussions will focus on mutual knowledge, open mind maps, and other dual benefits of teaching and practising participatory methods applied to democratic societies beyond the horizons of time and war.

**Lorenzo Dalvit**

Associate Professor, Rhodes University, South Africa

## **Towards a Decolonial Curriculum for a Critical Digital Media Masters Course in South Africa**

In recent years, South African universities experienced student protests calling for decolonisation. Catalysed around hashtags such as #FeesMustFall, #RhodesMustFall etc, such calls included issues of racial and gender compositions of the student and staff bodies, free access to Higher Education and challenging a Eurocentric curriculum. With reference to the latter, in the present paper I reflect on my experiences in developing, teaching and assessing a Critical Media Studies course with a strong Digital focus at postgraduate level at a historically advantaged Higher Education Institution. Over several years the curriculum of the Masters programme in Journalism and Media Studies (of which my course is a component) underwent significant changes, partly in response to student feedback and partly to align with a departmental research project on decoloniality, digitality and sociality. The switch to emergency distance education resulting from the ongoing pandemic brought into sharp focus profound inequalities in digital access, home environments conducive to studying and ability to work independently. As an area of teaching, digital media presents particular challenges but also lends itself to experimentation and innovation. These are discussed at the level of content, process and praxis. This paper advocates for and provides examples of placing the experience of postgraduate students at the centre of the curriculum. As part of the course, students relate academic readings and current news to their personal experience, interrogate their own and their peers' social media practices and engage with decolonial scholarship in our own as well as in cognate fields. The syllabus is dynamic and students are expected to contribute some independently sourced readings, propose topics and even contribute to defining their own outcomes and assessment. By engaging with questions such as "whose knowledge should be included in the curriculum?", "how can/should students engage with such knowledge?" and "where are the boundaries of disciplinary academic knowledge?" it is hoped that students will develop into a future generation of Critical Media Scholars informed by a Southern epistemological approach and contribute a contextualised, decolonised perspective to the field.

**Giuseppe De Luca Picione**

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**Domenico Trezza**

Researcher, University of Naples Federico II, Italy

&

**Lucia Fortini**

Adjunct Professor, University of Naples Federico II, Italy

### ***Ok Boomer: Ageing in the Politics and Politicians Discourses on Social Media***

The paper aims to explore the main representations and issues related to ageing and the gap generation through the digital profiles of politicians. Ageing is the process of becoming older and it refers mainly to humans: ageing connotes a biological and social construct (Prakash 1997). The study of ageing in the social sciences often focuses on a precise age target group, which is the elderly, neglecting other age segments that are nonetheless salient in the course of life (Holstein and Winkler 2007). Other works also focus on the social image and perception of ageing (Phillipson 2013, Willis 1996). However, studies focusing on other age groups are rare, and there is little research on generation gaps and their social representation. Social media offer the possibility to study people through their storytelling. Studying digital consumption and communication on social media can therefore be a very effective option to study people and thus to investigate specific age targets (Nam 2019, Koo and Young 2020). The analysis is carried out on three levels: age-related social communication, representation of ageing and ageing as a political issue, considering two age groups: baby-boomers and millennials politicians representing two generations in comparison.

Specifically, the research intends to answer three questions: the first is more general: Is there a different use of social media among the different age groups of politicians? The second involves the policy level: are there age-oriented policy issues? The third one concerns the representation of ageing: how do you represent your generation and what is the feeling of intergenerational comparison? Two lists of social political profiles have been created, divided by age group into “baby boomers” and “millennials”, controlling for political affiliation and gender. This increased the likelihood of associating variability of communication with age. The methodological approach used is that of digital methods (Rogers 2013). Data collection and analysis were carried out with a native digital application “Fanpage Karma”, which was used

to create the dataset of politicians' posts for the month of April 2022. The emerging results highlight that ageing is a very relevant issue within the policy discourse. This is probably related not only to the public salience of the topic but also to the new ways of communicating policy, which is increasingly personalised and therefore linked to private issues such as age and the social representation of one's age group.

**Burak Dogu**

Director, Izmir University of Economics, Turkey

&

**Begum Pasin**

Researcher, Izmir University of Economics, Turkey

## **Geothermal Politics: A Comparative Analysis of the News Media Coverage and Locals' Frames on Geothermal Resources in the Buyuk Menderes Basin**

Geothermal is considered an important source of clean and renewable energy (American Geosciences Institute). The Turkish Aegean hosts vast geothermal resources, particularly in the Buyuk Menderes basin, which is one of the most significant zones of advanced industrial production in Turkey. However, this region is also a very fertile agricultural land, where a variety of exclusive agricultural products are brought up among which are figs, olives, grapes, and chestnuts. Although the geothermal resources in the region offer an important potential for energy production, green housing and health tourism, the use of these resources, particularly for energy production, has an adverse impact on agriculture. And, since the costly re-injection procedures are not quintessentially followed by the power plants, detrimental effects are realized both on the quality and quantity of products, as well as on the soil and water supplies. Therefore, several associations have been operating in the region to raise awareness of the locals on the undesirable effects of geothermal use, while protests against the establishment and operation of geothermal plants are mobilized.

This study explores the coverage and framing of geothermal energy by the news media and compares it to the framing of those who are directly influenced by the investments in this sector. In the first phase of the research, the coverage of the mainstream and non-mainstream news media on geothermal energy will be examined. Framing analysis will be employed to a selected sample of pieces from the news media representing different political fractions. The sample will consist of the news articles from the pro-government and oppositional newspapers along with the alternative media. The second phase will be carried out on site. Semi-structured in-depth interviews will be conducted with the locals and associations operating in the region. Secondary sources such as web articles, video documentaries and published reports will be consulted to get additional information on the stakeholders. Collected data in both phases will be coded and categorized using a qualitative



data analysis software. Eventually, the impact of media framing on the locals will be explored in this comparative study, revealing the distinctive aspects of geothermal energy use.

**Dmitry Erokhin**

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&

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### **Futures of Shipping in the Arctic Until 2050**

The Arctic has an enormous economic potential as a storehouse of mineral resources and a provider of shorter and more cost-effective transportation between Europe and Asia. Therefore, it is an essential strategic element of domestic and foreign policies of all Arctic states. In addition, there is an increasing economic interest in the region on the part of non-Arctic states. However, the future of the Arctic remains highly uncertain. To help decision-makers deal with this high level of uncertainty, we have launched the “Emerging trade routes between Europe and Asia” scenario building project. In this paper, we present the resulting alternative narratives describing plausible futures of shipping in the Arctic until 2050: (i) Arctic as a Global Resource Base, (ii) Arctic as a Global Transportation Route, (iii) Arctic as an Abandoned Land, (iv) Arctic as a Sanctuary, and (v) Arctic as a Shortcut. These cross-scale consistent plausible narratives have been co-created together with representatives of policy, business, and academic communities and represent different volumes of Arctic shipping: high volume of destination and low volume of transit shipping; high volume of destination and transit shipping; low volume of destination and transit shipping; and low volume of destination and high volume of transit shipping. The process of scenario building has included three major steps consistent with the state-of-the-art in scenario building methodology: analysis of key factors, delineation of uncertainty space, assembly of scenarios. Key factors that determine these scenarios include infrastructure development, navigation conditions, global and regional governance, regulatory and financial barriers, advanced technologies, and decarbonization. The scenarios can inform the development of short-, medium-, and long-term policy measures aimed at the search of common interests and fostering cooperation in the Arctic.

**Christina Frese**

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**Dieter Bubeck**

Researcher & Project Supervisor, University of Stuttgart, Germany

&

**Wilfried Alt**

Professor & Institutional Director, University of Stuttgart, Germany

## **Do High Forces and Neuromuscular Dysbalance in the Take-Off Phase Lead to Unilateral Knee Pain in Volleyball Athletes?**

Chronic knee pain (KP) remains one of the most common orthopedic complaints among the athletic population especially among volleyball players (1). The high amount of repetitive jumping and landing sequences in combination with neuromuscular dysbalances is assumed to be crucial for the development of KP (2). The first aim of this study was to assess the ratio of neuromuscular activity of the M.vastus medialis (VM) and M. vastus lateralis (VL) in standardized clinical jump tests (Counter Movement Jump with and without arms) and volleyball-specific jump tasks (spike and block) on hard floor and two different sand types. Secondly kinetic parameters including maximal force and flight height were analyzed.

16 young female elite volleyball players (6 injured/10 controls) were analyzed in two clinical jump tasks and four volleyball specific jump tasks including block and three spike conditions varying in level of difficulty. The jumps were performed in one hall and two sand conditions. Neuromuscular control was captured with Wireless EMG (TELEmyo 2400T G2, Noraxon, Arizona). Kinetics were acquired synchronously using insole plantar pressure measurements (MediLogic, T&T medilogic Medizintechnik GmbH). IEMG was used to calculate the VM/VL-Ratio for the takeoff phase. EMG onset was defined by visual inspection supported by kinetic data. Jump height was calculated by flight time. Inter-subject differences were calculated with Man-Whitney-U test. Pearson correlation and Bland-Altman plot was used to test for interrelation.

All injured subjects had knee pain at their approaching leg (right side), but landed mainly on their left side. Maximal force and contact time of the approaching leg were in the take-off phase significantly higher than of the providing leg, but not different between groups. For some, but not all jumps there was a significant difference of VM/VL-ratio on the approaching leg (right side) between groups, especially in

the spiking conditions. Furthermore, we could show a high correlation of VM/VL-ratio between jump types and between grounds ( $r>0.8$ ). Between the two sand conditions person correlation as well as in Bland Altman plot interrelation was lowest.

Since all athletes had recurrent knee pain on their right side, but landed mainly on their left side, we conclude that the combination of high forces and neuromuscular dysbalance in the take-off phase might be relevant for the development of chronic knee pain in the approaching leg. Limitation of the study is, that the design does not allow interpretations about the cause-effect relationship and limited sample size. Furthermore, our results provide the first evidence that neuromuscular differences are consistent throughout different jump tasks and throughout various grounds. Therefore, neuromuscular dysbalances in general jumping tasks can be a good indicator for neuromuscular control in sport specific jumping tasks on sport specific grounds. Even though caution should be taken interpreting results measured on a sand type normally not trained on.

**Tamara Huber**

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&

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## **The Concept of Tipping Points and the Importance of Corporate Foresight**

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us again how small events trigger a transformation that influence all parts of our everyday life. The diffusion of the virus, which is driven by the established structures of overall global connectivity, hasn't run linear. The outbreak of Sars-Cov-2 can be interpreted as a so-called tipping point that has the power of changing the way we work and live in a sustaining way.

According to the definition of Milkoreit et al. (2018, 11) based on an interdisciplinary literature review a tipping point can be described as "a threshold at which small quantitative changes in the system trigger a non-linear change process that is driven by system-internal feedback mechanisms and inevitably leads to a qualitatively different state of the system, which is often irreversible". Based on that definition the conceptual paper introduces and discusses different tipping point concepts. In a second step, the paper reviews the findings in the research field of Corporate Foresight for early detection of weak signals and micro-trends, as it is postulated that tipping points can often identified only afterwards. Corporate Foresight research could help demystifying. Lastly, the paper closes with an evaluation of similarities and differences of the dynamics of tipping points, weak-signals and micro trends and the derived implications for the strategies and practices of Corporate Foresight.

**Marija Iles**

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**Domagoj Karacic**

Associate Professor, University of Osijek, Croatia

&

**Josip Juraj Strossmayer**

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## **Reproductive Changes in the Population of the Republic of Croatia**

Knowledge of demographic trends is the basis for policy formation, both economic, social, health, etc., and population policies. The Republic of Croatia has been facing demographic problems for many years, primarily an increase in the elderly population while at the same time reducing the reproductive base and the number of young people. Croatia is one of the countries in the post-transition phase of population characteristics, characterized by the transition of the total fertility rate from a low positive rate to a level that no longer ensures generational renewal and the mortality rate determined by increasing life expectancy. In the Republic of Croatia, fertility is measured by the periodic total fertility rate, which shows the average expected number of live births that a woman would give birth to during the fertile age (15 to 49 years). The total fertility rate of 2.1 children is often mentioned in the literature and by the public as the numerical level of generational replacement, while the Republic of Croatia has been recording a total fertility rate below that level for decades, i.e. 1.48 (2020). Another important feature of the post-transition feature is delayed birth. The age limit for marriage and the readiness to have a first child is increasing. The average age of a mother at the birth of her first child increased from 23.5 years (1960) to 30.7 years (2018), significantly reducing a woman's reproductive period. Due to numerous factors, there was a decrease in the number of live births from 95,560 children in 1960 to 35,845 children in 2020, which is a decrease in the number of live births by 59,715. The subject of this paper is a study of reproductive determinants of population development in the Republic of Croatia, with an emphasis on determining the influential factors of fertility and quantitative presentation of demographic indicators. This paper aims to find the cause of reduced fertility. Therefore, this paper will be analyzed the factors that influence fertility. Due to the resulting birth deficit, it is necessary to take measures of pro-natalist policy. Therefore, the concluding remarks will provide recommendations for improving the

demographic picture in the Republic of Croatia, in the context of encouraging births and increasing fertility.

**David Kalisz**

Dean of Expert Programs & Associate Professor, Paris School of  
Business, France

## **Intentions and Behaviour in AI Integrated Healthcare Systems**

Emergent technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) have significantly affected various sectors, including medical and healthcare. The Healthcare sector has adopted AI in a big way to improve its operational efficiency and quality of service. In conjunction with cutting-edge technologies, AI has been shown to assist users in clinical decision-making. However, there is less clarity about the end-users, i.e., the patients' experience using AI-infused technology during treatment, thus impacting their intention, attitude, and behavior. The study aims to draw a unique contextual model depicting the factors impacting patients' intentions and behavior toward using an AI integrated healthcare system during consultation and treatment. An empirical study used the adapted and integrated UTAUT Model to capture the patients' behavioral intentions and use. Specific behavioral predictors such as hedonic motivation, trust, concern for privacy, and patient health engagement, were incorporated into the model to test users' BI in AI integrated healthcare systems, which is one of the significant contributions of this study. Moreover, the moderating effect of the COVID-19 pandemic is integrated into the model to evaluate the determinants of patients' BIs towards AI-integrated healthcare application adoption and use in medical centers.

The study's finding suggests that effort expectancy, performance expectancy, hedonic motivation, patient healthcare engagement, and trust shape patients' behavioral intentions toward accepting AI-integrated healthcare systems. Additionally, this study has identified the role of hedonic motivation as a mediator to improve the feasibility and practicality of the model further. Furthermore, employees' behavioral intentions significantly affect UB, and the negative impact of privacy concerns on patients' trust was established. The effort expectancy's significant effect on performance expectancy was also established. Besides, the significant effect of performance expectancy on the patients' trust and the effect of hedonic motivation on PHE is confirmed. The findings concluded that the COVID-19 pandemic moderates the relationship between behavioral intentions and UBs. The study's results might have implications for AI-integrated software



developers, applications designers, healthcare centers, organizational behaviors, healthcare professionals, and management.

**Insook Kim**

Associate Professor, Kent State University, USA

## **Evidence-based Practices for Developing Physical Education Teachers' Depth of Content Knowledge**

One of the goals for teacher education programs is to guide teacher candidates to develop a deep understanding of content, pedagogy, and students, which allows them to address the complex and multifaceted demands of teaching in today's school (Cohen, Raudenbush, & Ball, 2003). Among many teacher variables leading to effective teaching, teachers' in-depth content knowledge (CK) has been considered as a robust variable in that teachers can achieve learning outcomes corresponding to what they teach (Kim et al., 2018). Teacher educators cannot cover all content areas possibly taught by our potential physical education teachers within four- or five-year curriculums in physical education teacher education (PETE). By clearly understanding the critical aspects of in-depth CK interrelated to other professional knowledge bases and student learning, teacher educators can better support both current and future physical education teachers' CK preparations in PETE programs.

The purpose of this presentation is to present evidence-based practices for developing physical education teachers' in-depth content knowledge (CK) that impacts their effective teaching and student learning in physical education. This presentation will describe the critical aspects of each CK and pedagogical content knowledge (PCK) by identifying the components of each knowledge domain. There will be further discussion about how these professional knowledge domains are related to each other considering student learning effects in both research and practice. By reviewing research evidence on CK and PCK in physical education literature, three identified teaching practices that promote teachers' in-depth CK: (a) a CK packet, (b) a CK test, and (c) a content map will be presented. Teaching approaches incorporated with those evidence-based teaching practices within PETE programs will be discussed as well. This presentation will guide teacher educators in determining future directions of professional development programs with evidence-based practices to promote teacher quality and effectiveness in physical education.

**Carolyn King**

Programme Leader; Religion, Culture & Society (BA & MA Courses),  
University of Central Lancashire, UK

**Religion, Culture & Society:  
The Key to Understanding Diversity**

Britain can certainly claim to be a pluralistic, democratic society hosting a population as diverse in 'race' and ethnicity as it is in faith, belief systems and cultural traditions. Therefore, it is crucial that different communities within pluralistic Britain not only understand each other's belief systems, practices and cultural traditions, but also accept and support difference. In accomplishing this aim, it is equally vital that the youth are educated about the diversified and multi-faceted nature of the society they live in and global humanity around them. A central tenant of Religious Education (RE) is engaging in critical and evaluative analysis of different faith systems and cultural heritages. Through studying RE, we can begin to appreciate and understand not only traditional heritage, values and cultural practices, but also the nature of religion and belief systems in direct relation to humanity and human development. This phenomenon applies historically to the development of social and cultural settings worldwide but also underpins the acquisition of knowledge and the meaning of law, sociology, politics, economics, education, philosophy, art, literature etc. Basically, Religious Education provides excellent preparation for real life engagement living and working in a pluralistic society and an ever growing global community. Further, RE informs past, present and future understandings of difference and developments globally and gives us an insight to current events that affect the global community; for example, the 2018 insurgencies in Thailand, the Syrian refugee crises and asylum seekers escaping the near genocide in Sudan.

Accordingly, RE is part of the National Curriculum in England and Wales and therefore compulsory for students in primary and secondary state funded schools. However, RE is not compulsory at General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) Level like other Humanities subjects such as History or Geography. This is a direct consequence of Government reforms including the introduction of the English Baccalaureate <sup>1</sup> (EBacc), which push students towards Science,

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<sup>1</sup>The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is a performance measure for students in secondary schools who achieve a Grade C or higher in core STEM subjects.

Technology, Economics, Math (STEM) subjects. The Bacalaureate is a rather deplorable mechanism to measure education in league tables. The exclusion of RE from the EBacc is having extreme and damaging effects. Not only does this foster a real lack of awareness of valuing difference, but also lack of awareness of how to support diversity and why community cohesion is important. RE engages with inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue, without it the youth are prevented from truly understanding and appreciating multicultural societies or global events.

I would argue the short-sighted reform brought about by the previous coalition government and supported by the current government undermines policies such as community cohesion, social inclusion, multicultural value of difference etc. and instead fuels ignorance, mistrust, division, intolerance, fear and social unrest. Religious Education ensures students learn about different ways of life locally, nationally and internationally, generating genuine understanding of Other – and we need it in our schools!

**Maria Kosma**

Associate Professor, Louisiana State University, USA

&

**David Buchanan**

Professor Emeritus, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, USA

## **Reconsidering the Push for Digitized Physical Activity Education in Lieu of the Intrinsic Value of Embodied Action**

In recent years, there has been an increasing push for the use of digitized physical activity promotion, where exercise promoters are increasingly being advised and/or directed to promote exercise by means of the use of digitized technology in various forms, such as smartphones, activity trackers, social media, and exergaming (video games in the form of exercise), based presumably on its perceived efficiency in reducing costs and increasing fitness levels. In this article, we critique the instrumental framework used by virtually all electronic media platforms, where the recommended activities are presented solely as a means to an end, rather than as actions that are intrinsically good in themselves. Based on electronic media, the means and ends are presumed to be independent of one another, and the end utilitarian goal is the achievement of a state of physical fitness via interchangeable and arbitrary digitized methods. Unfortunately, this approach disregards and diminishes the internal good of embodied action. It objectifies the human body by emphasizing outcomes that can be readily measured, like the number of steps taken, while deflecting attention away from the overarching goal of promoting human wellbeing. Instead of relying on utilitarian ways to increase fitness, we emphasize the need for a holistic and embodied approach in physical activity education. Drawing on the existential phenomenology of Merleau-Ponty (1945/2014), the body is not a mere object that is guided by the superior mind; rather, it is elevated to a subject, the *Lived Body*, which acts – it dances, climbs, runs, and plays. In embodied action, body and mind act in unison to experience joyful flow-like movement as an end in itself. Embodied experiences like dancing, swimming, riding a bike, and walking in the woods are immediate pleasures that humans can experience because they are corporeal creatures. In embodied action, we enjoy dancing intrinsically, not because it might make us live longer. We also know that we experience greater pleasure as we get better at an activity; we come away more relaxed, happier, a step removed from daily worries, doubts, and frustrations (Kosma &

Erickson, 2020; Kosma, Erickson, Savoie, & Gibson, 2021). When mind and body act in unison, we take delight in successful performance. We dance, play the piano, or go running to clear our minds and enjoy the experience in and of itself. Movement becomes an integral part of who we are, our sense of being-in-the-world, because of its sheer joy, not for instrumental reasons like achieving externally imposed objectives set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, like the number of steps taken or minutes spent. Instead of relying on digitized technologies to accelerate progress in meeting the demand for increased physical activity levels, we need to approach physical activity education in an embodied and holistic way where mind and body interact to celebrate movement experiences as a vital part of our being (Kosma, 2021).

**Georgios Lampropoulos**

Core Faculty, Michigan School of Psychology, USA

## **Predictors of Vaccine Hesitancy, Face Mask Use, and Other Precautionary Behaviors during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

This paper reviews the extensive literature on variables studied as predictors of (a) vaccine hesitancy; (b) face mask use, and (c) other precautionary behaviors during the COVID-19 pandemic. A variety of meta-analyses and studies are reviewed and examined, organized according to these three areas. Predictors studied include cognitive factors, psychological variables, personality traits, demographic characteristics, beliefs and attitudes towards various topics, clinical variables, prior experiences, environmental factors, and systemic factors, among others.

Research findings are considered and discussed within the sociocultural, temporal, and geographical contexts that these studies were conducted and throughout the various stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. Results are often mixed, nuanced, or contradictory, suggesting methodological issues and complex moderators of various types operating that need further investigation. Use of theoretical and structural models of understanding and researching the phenomena under investigation are also reviewed. Critical considerations and research recommendations for more nuanced research designs in exploring and understanding these phenomena are provided.

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## **Dance and Neuroscience Research**

Research into physical activity has proven that participants have improved memory, better balance, and improvement of chronic dizziness. Dance recently has gained attention regarding the effects of how music along with movement can enhance brain function in elderly participants. Music has been shown to stimulate the reward centers of the brain while dance activated the brain's sensory and motor circuits. A combination of both is a recipe for hope in the battle of Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and Demetria.

In a 2003 (Verghese et al.) study looked into several physical activities which included cycling, golf, swimming, and tennis. Compared to all other events, only dance lowered participant's risk of dementia. Dancing involves both social interaction and the mental process both needed for improved memory. When looking at PET imaging of the brain, the regions include motor cortex which controls planning and voluntary movement; somatosensory cortex controls eye-hand coordination; basal ganglia works with other brain regions to smoothly coordinate movement while the cerebellum integrates input from the brain and spinal cord fine and complex motor actions. Dance has been proven to stimulate each of these regions of the brain (Verghese et al., 2003)

Dance is promising for individuals diagnosed with Parkinson's disease as well. The chemical dopamine is an essential component of the brain system for controlling movement and coordination. Dance improves coordination with individuals with Parkinson's by requiring the integration of sensory information from multiple channels (auditory, vestibular, and visual) and the fine-grained motor controls of the whole body (Kshtriya, Barnstaple, Rabinovich & DeSouza, 2015). When compared to endurance training, dance has been proven to significantly increase hippocampal plasticity which is crucial for memory (Rehfeid et al., 2017).

With so many board games, puzzles, and word games that promise improved memory, none can compare with physical activity especially dance to combat Alzheimer, Parkinson, and dementia. It is as simple as learning a dance combination several times a week.



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&

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## **User Analysis and Development Suggestions of Subject Services Based on the Integration of Document Data and Scientific Data**

By researching the domestic and foreign researches on library services based on the integration of document data and scientific data from several aspects, our study analyzes the role of relevant participants in the integration service of document data and scientific data, with special emphasis on the relationships with subject services, including cooperative, support, service and sharing, etc. The main service contents and mechanism of the subject service based on the integration of document data and scientific data, include the design content of basic services, technical correlations, measurement correlations, correlation mechanisms, etc. So, the future development path has been proposed from the aspects of organizational mechanism construction, professional capacity construction, service product system construction, service promotion and marketing, theoretical method research, etc.

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## **Develop Focusing Attention, Perception and Distributive Attention through a Dance Program-Therapy**

Problem statement: ways to increase attention to students aged 13-14, given its forms of manifestation: focused attention, perception of attention and distributive attention through a dance program - therapy.

The purpose of study: elaboration of an action strategy for increasing the attention capacity of 13-14 year old students, through different dance-therapy techniques

Materials and methods: statistical processing was performed with the program StatsDirect v.2.7.2. The graphical representation of the results was done with the Excel application (from the Microsoft Office 2010 package). The tests used are: AP2 - Perception of attention; MA - Focussing attention; AD - Distributive attention.

The subjects participating in the experiment with a duration of 6 months by 30 students of the National College "George Baritiu" Cluj-Napoca, between October 2016 - March 2017.

Findings and results: in the statistical analysis of the values for the perception of attention and the spirit of observation (AP2) were observed statistically significantly significant differences between the two times ( $p < 0.001$ ). At the statistical analysis of the values for attention concentration - focusing attention (MA) no statistically significant differences were observed between the two times ( $p > 0.05$ ). At the statistical analysis of the values for distributive attention (MA) no statistically significant differences were observed between the two times ( $p > 0.05$ ).

Conclusions: statistically significant differences were observed in the indicators of the AP2 tests (perception of attention and observation) which indicates, as described above, that our intervention program in

the preliminary study had a positive and measurable impact on students in terms of improving negative perceptions as well as increasing attention and observation

**Sara Nosari**

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## **The Brain Teaser of Creativity: The Solution of 3RPlay's Educational Practices**

Creativity is one of the principal factors of transformation. Today, it seems that creativity must be recognized as the real and urgent need to solve the pressing problems: social, economic, environmental. Consequently, improving creativity (and its skills) becomes one of the main aims of educational policies. However, creativity brings with it a pending issue: what is creativity? This question is a brain teaser.

In fact, the semantic field of creativity is ambiguous and often contradictory. It can mean fantasy, divergence, originality, novelty, personality, productivity, freedom, progress, improvisation, transgression ... "What is creativity" is not a marginal question. It is a critical question: if we do not define the meaning of creativity, everything can be considered as creative and nothing can become truly creative. The question is not merely theoretical: the problem of definition turns up into a problem of direction; that is, theoretical approximation means practical disorientation: it is impossible to plan educational actions for training creativity, if we don't have a clear idea of creativity.

To overcome this brain teaser, the first aim of the proposal is to argue in favour of an ethical idea of creativity: the meaning of creativity is involved in an action that directs the change. The most important transformation is in fact to give a direction to the possibilities for future: without this action, the future could have any direction. Consequently, having creativity the responsibility of future, it could be possible to define creative action as an evaluating action.

If creativity is an evaluating action, it is essential to exercise the evaluative skills: reflecting, dialoguing and choosing are needed. Even if everyone is able to reflect, dialogue and choose, these skills must be exercised.

Faced with this task, the second aim of the proposal is to present the 3RPlay methodology, a version of reflective practice experimented by a research group of the University of Turin. That methodology is designed to train the approach needed to an evaluating action, that is, the problematizing approach. By a suspended situation staged by the methodological device of "pretext", the participants are engaged in a questioning activity. This activity exercises the necessary traits of creative skills to directing action: patience, courage and freedom.

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## **The Nutritional Taxation: An Effective Tool against Obesity and Beyond?**

The nutritional taxation is an efficient expression of the so called functional finance and relates to a tribute that has its cause not in financing of public expenditure, but in the protection of public health. It aims to improve the citizens quality life and to offer important impacts in terms of economic and social sustainability. Nutritional taxes have the target to strike food considered harmful for the health helping to avoid serious diseases and to correct wrong food styles.

The first step will be to verify the compatibility of this type of taxation with the constitutional taxation principle; the second and most important step will be to search and process appropriate policies for legislative reform for the sole purpose of improvement and widening of food lifestyles thanks to fiscal instruments.

To be more precise, concrete possibilities of implementing two different solutions should be explored: the first, a tightening of indirect taxes to be paid in relation to the consumption of junk food, together with tax cuts for the consumption of healthy food. A variant could be a tax benefit such as tax credits or tax allowances for the benefit of those who have a healthy lifestyle.

The second, the introduction of a new tax that strikes production or consumption of an unhealthy food, determined by the amount of harmful substances contained in it (for example trans fat). It will be very interesting to check the impact from the point of view of the consumers/tax payers and the companies who will face a possible lower demand.

The problem of health protection triggered by nutritional taxation is tightly bonded with the other of sanitary safety of food stuffs and with the need to promote a greater awareness in the choice of the consumer in terms of health guarantees.

The study aims to identify the most suitable paths and tools to promote that healthy and sustainable food that is the real target (extra tax) of the nutritional taxation and which represents a crucial aspect (also in terms of employment, health and environmental sustainability repercussions) to lay the foundations of that green and resilient

recovery of the economy that is the aim of the cohesion policy of React –  
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&

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**Off Thin Ice:  
After Decades of Media Abuse, it Took Hollywood to  
Repair Tonya Harding's Image and Reputation**

In 1994, more than 93 percent of households in the United States said they were either 'familiar' or 'very familiar' with the name Tonya Harding. By comparison, in the same timeframe, only 87 percent of households in the United States said they were 'familiar' or 'very familiar' with the name Al Gore. Tonya Harding was a women's figure skater who hadn't even competed in an Olympics yet. Al Gore was the vice president of the United States and had been in office for over a year. This qualitative study examines Tonya Harding's experiences after she was excoriated by news media in the 1990s and given an opportunity in 2017 to tell her story through the film, *I, Tonya*. The critical thematic analysis of a semi-structured interview with Harding contends that her assessment of how her image was recuperated by the film is informed by her experiences with news media's classism and sexism before and following the notorious attack on Nancy Kerrigan.

**Thomas Pettinato**

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### **Modern Slavery: A System of Exploitation – Study on Vulnerability Factors’ Dynamics**

Modern slavery is a hidden social reality that still affects the labour force of European countries. In Italy, migrant workers are among the most vulnerable social groups to exploitative labour dynamics, because of individual and institutional vulnerability factors. Exposing the most prominent theoretical approaches, the paper distinguishes different concepts related to modern slavery and relevant public policies. With qualitative analysis, vulnerability factors are investigated empirically, describing all dimensions of exploitation in detail, its logic and its conditions. The paper describes the widest spread profiles of the victim, the migratory paths, the living conditions, the dynamics of ethnic networks, and the condition of dependency. It investigates the cultural perception of migrant workers towards conditions of exploitation, together with the role of public policies on migration, the role and attitude towards public services, and it analyses the possibilities of emerging from exploitation given by public programmes to contrast modern slavery. The various combinations of all factors produce different situations of vulnerability that require various forms of intervention. The paper also aims to the implementation of a tool to prevent the risk of modern slavery. Using set-theoretic methods and logic, the essay orders the vulnerability factors into necessary and sufficient conditions that drive modern slavery, searching for ideal types. Consequently, with proper theoretical interpretation, the analysis makes it possible to measure the level of vulnerability of an individual and to produce an assessment tool that can be used on the field by social operators and policies makers.



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**The Intersection of Sexual Orientation, Auditory Status,  
Childhood Maltreatment, and Experiences of Sexual,  
Psychological, and Physical Abuse among Adult College  
Students**

This study explores the physical, psychological, and sexual abuse experiences among 260 college students at a midsize university located in the northeast of the United States. Auditory status, sexual orientation, and childhood maltreatment experiences are examined. The sample is nearly evenly divided between hearing and Deaf or hard of hearing participants with about 14% of participants identifying as LGBTQ+. Findings indicate significant differences between heterosexual respondents and LGBTQ+ respondents in their experiences of sexual, psychological, physical abuse, and having been mistreated as a child. Policy implications are discussed.

**Seppo Poutanen**

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## **European Doctoral Researchers in Business and Organisation Studies Telling About the Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Their Work - A Qualitative Study**

In Europe, the COVID-19 pandemic “began” in the early spring of 2020, quickly leading to various closures, curfews and quarantines in all European countries. For European universities the radically novel situation meant many kinds of restrictions and reorganisation of their operations, which caused unprecedented challenges to the work of academic researchers, teachers, administrators and students. The focus of this study is on the work of university students, and, more precisely, on the immediate pandemic-related experiences concerning work of PhD students, that is doctoral researchers, in business and organisation studies from several European universities.

There already exist numerous survey- and interview-based analyses of how students in higher education have coped with the exceptional situation, how they have faced severe stress, anxiety and even dread, but also analyses of means they have mobilised to develop new strategies of survival and even success in their work (e.g., ESU 2021, Humphrey & Forbes-Mewett 2021, Ihm et al. 2021). However, there is still an obvious need for qualitative analyses of how the sudden disaster of the COVID-19 pandemic has forced university students to rethink, reorganise and even recreate, with resources available to them, the key elements of their everyday life, and their studies and research work as its important parts. From a broad social scientific perspective, the pandemic has put the inseparable assemblies of agentic individuals immersed in their social/cultural/organisational structures to compelling movement and pressures of change, and it is only with qualitative analyses we can start to understand the varying, contextually specific ways such assemblies have processually evolved through the pandemic time.

The research material of this qualitative study consists of 16 texts (stories, accounts, SWOT-analyses) written by doctoral researchers from several European universities. The writing commission was a voluntary part of an online course on qualitative research methods for European PhD students in business and organisation studies, and the course was co-arranged by the author in May 2020. The doctoral researchers were asked to tell about the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on their work, but no conditions were put for the exact content, length or form of how

they should carry out this writing commission. Most of the participants in the research method course took up the voluntary task.

In the presentation I will introduce some results from my analysis of the 16 texts. As profiles of “survivors”, “strugglers” and “in-betweens/hybrids” could be interpretatively conceptualised from the material, it is interesting to reflect on the social scientifically relevant causes for the differences in the profiles. Generally, the COVID-19 pandemic as a singular mass disruptor has created fascinating challenges from the social scientific point of view, too, because “luck” (good or bad), for example, now seems to have made the kind of strong comeback as a mover and shaker of people’s lives that most of us probably were not expecting in the affluent West in the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Oscar Diego Salgado Guzman**  
Administrator, Mexico

## **The Impact of Perception in the Decision Making of the Directing**

It is important to mention that the directing is an art that contemplates in its process both hemispheres, right and left. The right hemisphere includes: intuition, creativity, imagination, artistic, sensitive, emotional, sentimental, simultaneous. Geographically we identified it with East. The left hemisphere includes analysis, inference, language, logic, writing, mathematics, numerical aptitudes, scientific concepts, follow-up of administrative processes, sequential. Geographically we identified it with West.

The decision making is important for the everyday task of the directing. In decision making, it is involved, both logical and analytical aspects as well as intuitive and visionary aspects. Most of our decisions have a mixture of rational and emotional aspects. Balance between emotions and intellect gives us correct instincts. We seek for an equilibrium between intuition and formal planning in order to make better decision making.

The decision-making is influenced by external factors like: economy, politics, society, legal, environment, ethics, technological advances, among others. And by internal factors like: shareholders, employees and boards of directors.

The perception is an element that impacts directly the decision making. The perception is molded by the following aspects: the experience, the intuition, the selective perception, the thinking, the mental filters, the beliefs, the expectations and the needs, among others.

From this theoretical perspective, we analyse, as follows, the mechanism of decision making in the particular case of a land public transport company in Mexico City.

We have analysed the next themes in directors, managers and administratives of the company.

1) Decision making style:	Style	Percentage
	behavior oriented	10%
	directive	30%
	analytical	40%
	conceptual	20%
	Total	100%

2) Degree of intuition	Level	Percentage
	High	40%
	Medium	60%
	Low	0%
	Total	100%
3) Use of cerebral hemispheres variables	Variable	Percentage
	analytical	30%
	logical	30%
	intuitive	30%
	visionary	10%
	Total	100%
4) Preference in the use of cerebral hemispheres	Variable	Percentage
	left	20%
	right	10%
	both	70%
	Total	100%
5) Directors Interview:		
	Director 1	Director 2
a) Factors to consider in decision making	analysis, experience, knowing the situation, historical information, circumstances, times, background, not mixing the sentimental, impartiality and take it easy.	security knowledge experience
b) Choice between decisions scheduled and unscheduled	Both	Scheduled
c) Choice between fast or non-fast decision making	Preferably not fast	It depends on the situation to choose one of the two
c) Time and place to be inspired for decision work	At night during the first hours of rest	At the start of activities at work

- |  |          |             |
|--|----------|-------------|
| e) Do you consider yourself intuitive?   | Yes      | Yes         |
| f) Do you consider that experience plays an important role in decision making and intuition? | Yes      | Yes         |
| g) What hemisphere do you think you use?   | Both     | Both        |
| h) Do you like mathematics or music?   | Music    | Mathematics |
| i) Do you like to be practice or to philosophize?  | Practice | Practice    |
| j) Do you consider adequate a balance in the use of the cerebral hemispheres?                | Yes      | Yes         |

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&

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## **Data and Confidentiality Leaks Reported in Canada in 2020-2021**

IBM Security (2021) reported that a data breach incident cost Canadian organizations on average \$5.4 million USD, an increase of 20% compared to 2020.

Despite the high cost of these incidents, few empirical studies examine personal information breaches occurring in Canada. Moreover, there is no centralized repository of incidents of personal information data breaches. In the USA, the Privacy Rights Clearing House (n.d.) has been collecting national data about privacy breaches since 2005, sourcing their data from state Attorneys General and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Since 2018, Canadian private organizations must report such incidents to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner (OPC 2018). However, the OPC does not publish details of the companies involved. Due to data scarcity, there is still a dearth of empirical research about privacy breaches in Canada.

This multi-method research explores privacy breaches involving companies operating in Canada. We used a netnographic approach (Addeo et al. 2019) to collect data by downloading press releases, news articles and blogs reporting privacy breaches for the years 2020 and 2021. This yielded around 150 reports of incidents. Two researchers coded this raw textual data using the PCR classification (Ayyagari 2012). We updated this classification by adding ransomware attacks. When available, we indicated the number of persons affected and the cost.

This data was then analyzed to describe the Canadian situation, detect trends and identify future avenues for research. Our exploratory research has some limitations that we will consider when interpreting results. Our dataset includes only privacy breaches reported publicly. Despite their reporting obligations, not all businesses report privacy breaches to the OPC. When they do, they avoid disclosing them to the

public. Nevertheless, this research will contribute to the knowledge about the detection and prevention of data breaches in Canada.



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## **Changes in Some Blood Lipid Variables after 8 Week Training and Ostarine Administration**

Selective androgen receptor modulators (SARMs) are derivatives of testosterone. They are prohibited by WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency) because of their strong anabolic effect and are still not approved by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration). We conducted an 8-week experiment with rats and the non-steroid representative of SARMs Ostarine. The aim of the study was to investigate the effect of exercise and Ostarine per se, and the combined effect of both of them on blood lipid parameters.

We used 3 months old male Wistar rats (body weight 160-200 g). The rats were taken to the Physiology department two weeks before to start the real experiment. As running on treadmill is a skill which needs to be learned and not all rats want to run, we put each rat for 5 minutes on the treadmill three times a week for the 2 weeks and after that we chose only 40 running rats and divided them into four groups: **A - sedentary group treated with placebo, B - sedentary group treated with Ostarine, C - training group treated with placebo, D - training group treated with Ostarine.** Ostarine was given to the animals via subcutaneous injections five times a week (with a dose of 0.4 mg/kg bw). The training groups ran on a treadmill for 40 min, five times per week. At the beginning of the experiment the training rats ran for 20 min and every day the duration of the exercise was increased by 5 min until we reached duration of 40 min. The sedentary groups ran 5 min three times a week to maintain their running skills.

At the end of the experiment blood samples were taken to measure plasma triglycerides, total cholesterol and HDL-cholesterol. Statistical

analysis was performed. The values are given as **mean ± SEM**. We found the following results:

1. For triglycerides - in group B (sedentary treated with Ostarine) there was a tendency for higher values than in group A (sedentary treated with placebo) -  $0.49 \pm 0.05$  mmol/L vs.  $0.36 \pm 0.03$  mmol/L, P-NS.

2. In group B (sedentary with Ostarine) we found higher values of HDL-cholesterol than in group A (sedentary treated with placebo) -  $1.7 \pm 0.07$  mmol/L vs.  $1.26 \pm 0.04$  mmol/L ( $P < 0.001$ ). The rats of the other Ostarine-treated group D (training) also had higher values of plasma HDL-cholesterol than group A ( $1.54 \pm 0.08$  mmol/L vs.  $1.26 \pm 0.04$  mmol/L,  $P < 0.05$ ).

3. The rats of group B (sedentary with Ostarine) had higher values of plasma total cholesterol than rats of group A ( $1.92 \pm 0.07$  mmol/L vs.  $1.47 \pm 0.05$  mmol/L,  $p < 0.001$ ), than the rats of group C ( $1.92 \pm 0.07$  mmol/L vs.  $1.65 \pm 0.08$  mmol/L,  $P < 0.05$ ), and group D ( $1.92 \pm 0.07$  mmol/L to  $1.68 \pm 0.07$  mmol/L,  $P < 0.05$ ).

In conclusion Ostarine increases triglycerides and total cholesterol in the untrained group and increases HDL-cholesterol in both trained and untrained groups.

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## **Buying Political Reality in the United States**

With so much media attention on the presidential campaigns in the United States, how do voters learn about candidates for other offices? On local TV news, political ads create the reality of local races – a reality that is not meant to inform voters but to persuade them. Voters are left to their own devices to fill in the space between what the ads say – the bought reality – and what political stories used to cover.

In the 2016 Presidential campaign, Hillary Clinton accounted for 75 percent of the political ads that appeared on broadcast television, while Donald Trump accounted for only 25 percent. Under normal circumstances, that would have produced a Clinton win – more ads, more votes. But, Trump had a trump card. It was the mainstream media. While Clinton had to pay for coverage, Trump got it for free. It was worth \$5 billion, 10 times the total money that he raised.

Trump's tweets were irresistible to television as he made one over-the-top statement after another, beginning with his characterization of Mexican immigrants when he announced his candidacy in 2015. There were others including his ominous statement three weeks before the election that he would abide by the outcome "only if I win". He said the same thing in 2020.

Broadcast television knew a reality TV star when it saw one. Its coverage of the campaign was laid bare in the comment of then-CBS president Les Moonves, who characterized the campaign as a "circus" that "may not be good for America, but it's damn good for CBS". It was not only the sheer volume of the coverage, it was also its prominence. Trump's tweets in *reaction* to an opponent's statement were often covered *before* the statement. He suffered no negative consequences from his tweets – comments that would have been disqualifying in previous campaigns. Quite the opposite, as he doubled down on his claims, he garnered increased support from his most avid followers.

However, the down-ballot races – for the US House of Representatives and Senate – the 2016 campaign looked very much like previous elections. Political ads, not tweets, carried the messages of candidates because they did not enjoy the celebrity of the presidential contenders. Therefore, local television stations inundated citizens with political ads that often proclaimed mutually exclusive realities. More than three-fourths of the political ads that US citizens saw during a white-hot presidential campaign were directed at races that were *not*

for the presidency. More importantly, they did not even recognize that imbalance.

The presidential race had enough coverage to make it seem that there were no other races being contested. It literally consumed all the air in the room. But that is the point. For the down-ballot races, political ads became critically important for candidates to advance their messages. And they used television news to do that. What did that mean for political ads, money and coverage?

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## **Is There a Future for the Book? A Case Study of Sub-Cultural Children's Literature in Israel**

Scholars of Israeli children's literature have recently noticed an interesting socio-literary phenomenon: the emergence of an entirely new branch in Israeli children's literature, namely the ultra-orthodox children's literature. The ultra-orthodox sector is characterized by strict observance of all Jewish commandments, placing great emphasis on family life, and personal modesty. They strive to insulate themselves from surrounding secular society and to achieve maximal cultural and social segregation. Trying to minimize their consumption of the secular media, printed and electronic, they have developed their own subculture and recreational activities, isolated from the mainstream literary life in Israel.

The objectives of the present exploratory study were:

1. To assess the dimensions and the growth rate of this unique branch of children literature.
2. To find its main topics and genres.
3. To gain knowledge concerning its authors opinions and attitudes towards various facets of the Israeli society, including their own sector.

In the lack of a detailed and comprehensive list, the books had to be sought in various school and community libraries of the ultra-orthodox sector. Of an assumed population of about 6000 such books, more than 1000 were located, for which formal bibliographical details were recorded as well as in-depth content analysis.

This special group of 'sectorial' books was found to have several unique features, distinguishing it from the rest of children's books published in Israel.

1. Rate of growth: an enormous increase started in the 1970's, and gained greater momentum from 1980 on, raising the proportion of these books to about 20% of the total number of children's books published in Israel. The reasons of this rapid increase have been probably an interesting combination of demographic and socio-educational factors.
2. The ultra-orthodox children's

literature differs considerably from the regular Israeli children's literature regarding genres, themes, titles, content and story-occurrence periods.

2. This children literature is a didactic one, motivated by the authors' and publishers' educational goals, who feel 'recruited' and committed to their mission, being affiliated with this sector.
3. Sociologically, this unique children's literature could be viewed as one of the means by which a religious-cultural minority attempts to educate its young generation, according to a certain sub-culture, with maximal separation from the surrounding general secular culture.
4. Thus, one may predict that books reading and use are not going to vanish from daily life as far as this sector is concerned.

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&

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## **Investigation of the Prevalent Types of Multiple Intelligences among Regular Sports Exercisers in Oman**

This study aimed to investigate the types of multiple intelligences prevalent among regular sports exercisers, as well as to make a comparison of the types of intelligences between sports exercisers and non-exercisers.

To achieve these goals, we used two measures: (1) the weekly sports activity scale, which classifies participants into active and inactive according to the exercise intensity, duration, and frequency per week; and (2) the Arabic version of the multiple intelligences scale which covers eight types of intelligences (linguistic, musical, kinesthetic, visual, interpersonal, intrapersonal, logical, and natural). These measures were electronically administered to a sample consisting of 407 young men and women who voluntarily participated in this study (298 males and 109 females,  $m_{age} = 25.6 \pm 8.3$ ).

The results of the study revealed that regular sports exercisers had higher levels of kinesthetic, interpersonal, and intrapersonal intelligences while having low levels of musical and linguistic intelligences. The study also explored that there were significant differences between the regular sports exercisers and non-exercisers in all types of intelligences except musical and intrapersonal intelligences, while the results showed that there were no gender differences across all types of intelligences.

The study concluded that exercising in leisure time according to the recommended rates is associated with an increase in the levels of most types of intelligences, including interpersonal, intrapersonal, natural, and kinesthetic, which positively reflects their psychological and social compatibility, and enhances civil and environmentally friendly behaviors.

**Juan Zornoza**

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**Institutional Weakness and Extractivist Policies in Latin America in the XXI Century: Analysis of Deforestation and Environmental Conflicts in Bolivia, Brazil and Colombia**

Since 2002, the South American nations undertook a new developmentalism induced by the demand for natural resources and the global economic situation. Some economic practices aimed to explore and exploit large areas of land with hydrocarbons, large mining, agricultural monocultures, extensive cattle ranching and the development of infrastructure for the generation and transmission of energy, viaducts and ports. These activities have caused insufficiently compensated socio-environmental impacts in a context of weak, captured and corrupt institutions. Is objective of this study analyze the institutional weaknesses derived from the development of extractivist practices between 2002-2020, which have increased deforestation and tenure conflicts due to state capture and the weakness of the institutions that regulate and control these activities. As a result, it is expected to explore proposals for adjustment to institutional designs related to the regulation of socio-environmental conflicts derived from extractivist activities in Colombia and Latin America. The research links the legal system with public policies and for this it explores the source, review the background, concepts and theoretical approaches, review the diagnosis on deforestation and other socio-environmental conflicts, examine the designs of the environmental licensing institutions, prior consultation and possession of land, to recommend relevant actions.



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