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ANDRZEJ MARGASIŃSKI

Popular Self-Help Literature: Barnum's Risk Effect and False Autodiagnosis 7

Editions of popular self-help literature addressed to people growing up in pathological families reach many thousands copies. As a result, terms like *codependence*, *Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOAs)*, *Adult Children of Dysfunctional Families (ACDFs)*, have become widely used in mass culture in spite of the fact that there are no such nosological terms either in the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10), or in the American classification DSM-IV. The article introduces controversies connected with simplifications and stereotypes functioning in the self-help literature, particularly from the angle of the so-called Barnum effect, a phenomenon involving general acceptance of ambiguous expressions by individuals. Attention is also paid to the consequences of using self-help literature in the practice of university education.

EWA WŁODARCZYK

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The article provides an analysis of voluntary service, which is particularly relevant in 2011, the European Year of Volunteering. The article discusses the main legal issues of volunteering, statistical data concerning voluntary service as well as their dynamics over the past decade. The article further documents attempts to promote the idea of voluntary services in contemporary Poland. Aside from showing the positive aspects of volunteering, the text also encourages reflection on its shadows.

BARBARA GRABOWSKA

Literature as a Civics Course (according to R. Rorty) 51

Richard Rorty claims that literature plays a vital role in shaping good citizens of a liberal democracy. Tolerance and solidarity are the pivotal behaviors a citizen should express to properly carry out his or her duties. Both a tolerant attitude and a sense of solidarity can only be justified by pragmatic arguments, and these can be provided by literature. Tolerance means a passive acceptance of differences and consent to the use of persuasion, rather than force in order to proclaim one's views. Literature (for example historical or sociological works)

highlights the benefits of this approach, such as inner peace, one's safety and successful cooperation. Solidarity, however, refers to the category of "people like us". To be in solidarity means disapproving of the cruelty caused to members of the "we" community and providing them with assistance whenever necessary. The role of literature, especially belles-lettres, is to contribute to the expansion of this community. Writers and journalists describe those who are excluded in such a way, which helps to find and highlight similarities between them and us. This allows us to look at differences from a new angle and recognize the outsiders as individuals who suffer in the same way we do. Anthropological and ethnographic works as well as novels have played an important role in creating a broader sense of solidarity. Books, such as "Uncle Tom's Cabin" or "Beloved", have contributed much more to creating a better, more righteous society, than the works of philosophers. Novels are also needed to rouse the enthusiasm necessary to prompt readers to eliminate cruelty. The humanities are essential to maintain faith in the superiority of liberal democracy and for hope that democracy can become even better.

JACEK DYMOWSKI

Corporate Social Responsibility Concept versus Economic Policy: Analysis and Potential Directions 67

This article aims to bring attention to the issues relevant for the development of a corporate social responsibility concept in Poland. Issues, which are probably important, but are not necessarily at the heart of business. At the moment, the discussion on incentives that could encourage the development of this idea, especially in the realm of economic policy, does not actually take place in academia. This would be a worthy initiative to undertake.

By increasing the awareness of the participants of socio-economic life, the development of responsible government seems to accelerate. It seems important to include widespread education of people connected with the capital market, or that create consumer habits (eg. journalists).

Emphasizing these issues will encourage a deeper discussion on this topic, as well as a deeper understanding of socio-economic mechanisms.

KLAUDIA WĘC

Communicational Competences in Border Situations: Paradoxes of Language 86

The problem of border situations currently determines the direction of pedagogical discourse; revealing a deficit in possibilities of openly stating difficulties and questions that arise from both individual experiences as well as from a distinctively felt tension in a broad sense of understanding social experiences. In this context, psychoanalysis, in its radical dimension, determines the scope of organization of an educational process, which locates its participants from a common area of actions. Through mutual furtherance and reinforcement via the exchange of cognitive impulses, one side reveals the scope and effects of border actions while the other side through border questions affirms *otherness* in a broad sense of understanding of functioning in trans-border discourses, including the diversity of interpretations, languages, limitations, prejudices or fears. The aim of the article is to depict pedagogical practice and psychoanalytical competences based on symbolic educational discourse and in the context of boundary occurrences determining difficulties in interpersonal relations. Therefore, the question: "how to educate a man in order not to educate?"

will lead to a collision of hermeneutics with pedagogy that requires reflection starting from efficiency in technical deciphering of the theory of education to the ability to look at those concepts from the perspective of their symbolic meaning.

STATEMENTS–DISCUSSIONS

AGNIESZKA KOMOROWSKA

The Risk of Dislexia in Early-School Aged Children: Lodz's Primary

Schools as an Example 97

The text brings up the issue of learning difficulties known by the general name of dyslexia. The article presents the results of the scientific studies into the disorders of concentration, visual perception and language functions. The test subjects were 120 eight-year-old children that attend elementary school in Lodz. The research aimed to answer the following questions: How great is the risk of dyslexia among second grade students in elementary schools? What are the symptoms of this disorder and whether there are differences between boys and girls in the extent of displayed dysfunctions? The research tool was Dyslexia Risk Scale created by Marta Bogdanowicz. The scale evaluates the level of sight and hearing functions, linguistic communication as well as the child's motor development and concentration. An analysis of the results indicated that there are some statistically considerable differences to the disadvantage of boys. Such difference exists in the small extent of motor, visual perception, linguistic functions (the expression) and concentration. People suffering from such disorders have difficulty writing in a graphically correct way, painting diligently or moulding with precision. They also have problems with self-service (e.g. buttoning up their clothes). They make many orthographic mistakes. Moreover, they have linguistic function disorder in the area of expression (i.e. they are not able to concisely put their thoughts and emotions in words). Having an unsettled ability to concentrate, the child gets bored quickly while reading or writing. The child doesn't finish its tasks and has difficulty remembering the commands. The hardships mentioned above are experienced by approximately ¼ (i.e. 25%) of examined boys. In the case of girls, it is about 8% to 10%.

MICHAŁ JAN LUTOSTAŃSKI

Symbolic Youth Subcultures in Mazovia Province Membership to Punks,

Skinheads and Metalheads 113

The aim of this article is to present youth subcultures, which still have not been analyzed well enough by social scientists. While new types of subcultures ('emo', for example) are forming around the world, 'classic' subcultures remain very interesting. This article presents the membership characteristics of three youth subcultures in the changing modern world. This article is based on 21 in-depth interviews conducted in 2009 with members of three subcultures - Skinheads, Punks and Metalheads. Each group is connected with different genres of music, which have significant influence on membership to these groups.

JOLANTA SZCZURKOWSKA

Us, Partiot's? 126

This article is a diagnostic test of Polish patriotism based on the results of the last two decades of investigations. It was found that the most of Poles identify themselves as patriots, however their understanding of patriotism differs in content and is often politically distinctive. Patriotism is expressed in the attitude towards the homeland and nation and moreover regulates the in-group and out-group relationships. The patriotism of Poles correlates to the humanism of Polish culture, benevolence towards one's own nation and nationalism. Patriotism is not a barrier to uniting with other EU countries. On the other hand, Polish patriotism promotes Polish interests by favouring countrymen in the economic field while defending against the destruction of the national standing, insulting of the president (especially by foreign politicians), and the falsification of Polish history. Those who leave the homeland are "weak patriots". There is no difference in the emotional and behavioural patriotism among emigrants, re-emigrants and those who live in the country. Currently, there is a noticeable decrease in the intensity of patriotic attitudes, particularly in knowledge about homeland.

ANNA PLUSKOTA-LEWANDOWSKA

Positively in Education 147

The structure of the present paper consists of two interrelated modules. In the first module, a report is given about the Symposium of Positive Psychology, which took place in Wrocław, Poland. The second module contains the results of some scientific inspiration – the consideration of the problem of the relationship between the positive psychology and education – stemming from the author's participation in the above named symposium. The purpose of the present study is to present the possibility of the application of this highly interesting and promising trend in the psychology, which is positive psychology, in the educational field. For this reason, the origins as well as an outline of the interest scope of this relatively recent, dating back just over 10 years, trend are shown. A crucial question has become in this context the examination of the relationship between positive psychology and education, particularly regarding the potential linked to the prospect of the so-called „strong points”. The fathers as well as the supporters of positive psychology try to propagate it in therapy and in the fields of organization and education. In the following text, some selected concepts of positive psychology and corresponding examples of their practical usage in the form of the so-called positive prevention and intervention programs in the domain of education are described. The article is concluded by an attempt at a critical examination of the „weak points” of positive psychology, providing some suggestions for the possible future development of the trend.

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