

ENGLISH ABSTRACTS ENGLISCHE ZUSAMMENFASSUNGEN

ABSTRACTS

ELŻBIETA ADAMIAK & SONIA SOBKOWIAK (p. 3)

Gender and Religion in Central and Eastern Europe: Theoretical Approaches: Since 1989, Central and Eastern European countries have experienced political and economic changes which have without doubt influenced social life and forced a new appraisal of the roles of men and women. The awareness of sex/gender difference has been examined on many different levels and has become an important part of academic research. In this article, the authors analyse feminist publications from the last twenty years and ask how the idea of gender has influenced religions and religious communities. They investigate how the notion of gender is understood, on what levels it can be explored and how it is present in religion. The article offers an overview of studies on gender awareness in religious teaching and religious communities (including some of new religious movements) in Central and Eastern European countries. Furthermore, it presents the most recent research into the religious influences on social roles of women and how women perceive their roles in society and the Churches. Finally, the authors ask whether the connection between gender and culture includes religious references, where gender, culture and religion meet, and what problems emerge in that meeting specifically with the example of Poland.

Keywords: gender, sex/gender difference, feminism, religions, religious communities, social roles

ROGER CSÁKY-PALLAVICINI, ATTILA PILINSZKI & TEODÓRA TOMCSÁNYI (p. 26)

Challenges Posed by the Fall of Communism – Answers and Conclusions: Family Support, the HÍD Family Support Model, the Role of the Church and Spirituality in Hungary: In the years immediately before and following the fall of communism, in a new social climate, several psychosocial issues requiring attention and solutions surfaced in Hungary. The study outlines the challenges faced at the end of the 80s and the beginning of the 90s, and also provides a glimpse of the answers developed in this social situation. The concept of the HÍD family support service, an integral part of and best practice for the nationwide family support network, is presented, in which the district council (later ‘the local government’) and the Church joined forces in order to solve psychosocial issues. The possibilities and tools of mental hygiene oriented psychosocial spiritual work are presented through a case study. Finally, conclusions are drawn.

Keywords: social work, family support, local government, mental hygiene, spirituality, dialogue, case study, model value, exemplary character

GERT GEISLER (p. 56)

Schools and Education in the German Democratic Republic: Based on the publications of the last few years, the article provides an outline of the history of education in the former GDR, from the end of World War II up to the peaceful revolution in the autumn of 1989. The structural

evolution of schools providing comprehensive education is presented with the typically dictatorial backdrop. Special attention is paid to the issues of access to education, the 'equal rights to education', and the assertion of the principle whereby state socialism constantly strove to prove its own legitimacy within the field of education. The paper identifies the political and ideological aspirations of the system in education, and the role teachers were to play in its implementation. Teacher training, primary school management and the basic characteristics of their activities are examined in further detail. The author describes the effects the internal social tensions, marking the entire history of the GDR, had on education, the tools the communist party employed in putting its ideas for education into practice, and how these ultimately failed.

Keywords: education, GDR, communism, state socialism, dictatorship, history, retrospect, helping profession, school system, teacher training, configuration of education, educational opportunities

VIRÁG KAPUVÁRI (p. 83)

Psychological Effects of Economic Recession and Unemployment: The aim of this study is to explore research projects to demonstrate some of the problems connected with health consequences of unemployment. There is a growing body of evidence that unemployment can influence physical and mental health. This review essay focuses on health consequences of economic recession and unemployment. The author explores some important Hungarian events which serve as a historical context of the whole topic to later analyse the mental effects of unemployment. Concerning the mental consequences of this phenomenon, anxiety, depression, and low self-esteem often occur among unemployed people. Learned helplessness is well known in the literature as well. The author makes an attempt to interpret the topics above and the stages unemployed people undergo. Numerous psychological theories of unemployment are known such as frustration theory, life-span developmental theory, deprivation theory, agency restriction theory, and the vitamin model, which try to explain the importance of work in people's life. In this paper the author tries to emphasise a possibility of the crisis originating in the economic recession and affecting not only individual life but also the whole society.

Keywords: unemployment, economic recession, mental health, contextual effects, theories of unemployment