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ABSTRACTS

HESSEL. J. ZONDAG & MARINUS H.F VAN UDEN (p. 3)

'My Special Prayer': On Self, God and Prayer: In this contribution we will demonstrate the impact of narcissism – an important personality trait in individualistic societies – on religious behaviour. Present-day Western culture is generally characterised as being expressive individualistic. A dominant trait in this pattern is the tendency of people to ascribe divine (godlike) characteristics to themselves. Psychologically speaking, we are dealing with narcissism. The various varieties in the spectrum of narcissism show that these attempts to attribute divine characteristics to the self do not always succeed. These individuals fantasise about becoming godlike, but their self-image is too fragile to enable these attempts to be successful. The success of this narcissistic aspiration has effects on religious activities, like praying. Based on earlier empirical research and a case study we show how self-deification, narcissism and prayer are related. Those who succeed in becoming godlike pray in a different manner than those who fail in this effort. The former address their prayers to themselves or an anonymous higher power, the latter address their prayers to a personal God.

Keywords: individualisation, self, overt and covert narcissism, prayer, narcissism

FERENC KÖTELES & PÉTER SIMOR (p. 20)

Modern Health Worries: Somatosensory Amplification, Health Anxiety and Well-being: a Cross-Sectional Study: The study aims to investigate the relationship among modern health worries (MHWs), somatosensory amplification (SSA), health anxiety, and well-being. Questionnaires (Modern Health Worries Scale, Somatosensory Amplification Scale, Short Health Anxiety Inventory, Positive and Negative Affect Schedule, and WHO-Five Well-being Scale) were completed by 180 patients (mean age = 48.2 ± 15.76 yrs) visiting their general practitioners and by 344 undergraduate students (21.5 ± 2.09 yrs) in a cross-sectional study. According to the results, SSA and health anxiety were independently related to MHWs. Health anxiety was negatively related to indicators of general well-being. MHWs were not associated with well-being and were weakly positively connected to positive affect in the correlation analysis, while positive associations with both constructs were found after controlling for socio-economic variables, negative affect, and health anxiety in the regression analysis. MHWs are usually treated as maladaptive cognitive structures, but in the light of the present results this viewpoint might need reconsideration.

Keywords: somatosensory amplification, health anxiety, well-being, perceived control

BENCE TAKÁCS & ZOLTÁN KMETTY (p. 34)

Sport as a 'Tool' of Socialisation: Correlations between Civil Organisation Activity and Sporting Activity in the 15–18 Age Cohort: Several studies pointed out the positive effects of social capital in the last 10 to 20 years. Nevertheless, only minor emphasis was put on the formation of social capital. Most authors implicitly presume an effect of socialisation in the background of the formation of social capital. This is also confirmed by studies, using data of panel research, which have demonstrated significant connections between the civil activity of young people and adults and their general level of trust. In our study we examine how membership in civil organisations – which we consider an important indicator of social capital – is influenced by sporting activity in the age range of 15–18. The two surveys examined (*Ifjúságkutatás 2000, 2008*) show that young people practising sports are more likely to participate in the work of civil organisations, moreover, sport proved to be a more important background variable in our models than the access to economic and cultural resources. Although this is also due to structural reasons, we are convinced that the most important factors for social capital are the participation in a community and the social net deriving from it. And juvenile sporting activity can serve as a good basis for this.

Keywords: social capital, leisure time, 15–18 age range, sporting activity, civil organisation membership

HELENE YBRANDT (p. 54)

Ten-year Trends in Self-reported Family and Psychological Problems Among Swedish Adolescents: The aim of the study was to compare problem severity among Swedish adolescents, using self-reported and interviewer-rated data from 2000 and 2010, gathered with the Adolescent Drug Abuse Diagnosis (ADAD) interview. Data relating to family relationships, psychological status and problems were collected in two samples randomly selected from the adolescent population aged 15–17 years (121 adolescents in the year 2000 and 485 adolescents in the year 2010). The results show that the self-rated and interviewer-rated problem severity of adolescents in 2000 and in 2010 seems to be unchanged, with no increased polarisation for sex and socio-economic groups. There was a difference, however, was of girls reporting more severe problems in family relationships compared to boys. In 2010, compared to 2000, adolescents reported on fewer psychological problems (e.g. experiences of serious anxiety and tension, comprehension and concentration disorder, memory loss and, in addition, with relationships in and outside the family sphere – e.g. problems with getting along with siblings, and with trusting other people). In order to promote the mental health of adolescents it is essential during the next decade to reveal relationship problems, such as problems of insecurity with people outside the family.

Keywords: Adolescent Drug Abuse Diagnosis (ADAD), adolescence, mental health, family, relationship problems

KHODARAHIMI SIAMAK, HAYDAR DEGHANI & MOHAMMADHADI NIKPOURIAN (p. 68)

Mental Health and Coping Styles of Rural Residents Affected by Drinking Water Shortage in Fars Province: An Ecopsychological Perspective: The purpose of this study was to examine, in an Iranian sample, the effect of drinking water shortage on the rural residents' mental health and their coping styles, and to investigate the influences of gender, location of residence, marital status, job and the level of education on these constructs. Participants included 1198 rural residents around the Iranian cities of Darab and Eghlid. A demographic questionnaire, the *General Health Questionnaire* 28 (GHQ-28), and the *Coping Styles with Drinking Water Crisis Scale* (CSDWS) were used in this study. The CSDWS is a multidimensional construct with four factors including: (1) optimising water consumption methods, (2) water-free technologies and social changes in life, (3) usage of high-quality technologies in water saving, and (4) emotion-focused avoidant coping styles. Rural residents who had suffered no drinking water shortage had a significantly higher performance of rational coping styles and had a lower psychopathology indicator and a lower performance of emotion-focused avoidant coping styles than rural residents who had experienced drinking water shortage. The effect of location of residence, marital status, level of education and occupation on coping styles and mental health was affirmed in this sample.

Keywords: drinking water shortage, coping styles, mental health, demographics

Željko Burcar (p. 87)

The Role of the Principal in Croatian Education: Manager, Leader or Administrator: The purpose of this study is to examine problems in the fields of educational management and instructional leadership in Croatia that could serve as possible starting points for future studies or research. This study examines the role of the school principal within the context of modern-day schooling in turbulent surroundings, growing responsibility and overloaded schedule.

According to findings we can explain eight different roles principals perform in Croatian education: a) information collector and disseminator, b) communicator, c) strategist and planner, d) executive manager, administrator and organiser, e) educational leader and educator, f) evaluator, g) student and h) community liaison.

The principal's roles are oriented toward: a) people, b) tasks/goals, c) school as organisation, and d) processes inside the school. Tasks generated from such orientation belong to an ideal administrative process: planning, decision-making, organising, coordination, communication, influence and evaluation effective in five tasks of school management: school program, pupils, staff, and relations with community, physical preconditions, and management.

Keywords: school, management, education, leadership, instruction, principal's responsibilities

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