

**IFOTES CONGRESS VIENNA 2010
PLENARY AND PARALLEL LECTURES**

12 July 2010

Structural Violence in Society

PLENARY 2

1)

EU economical and political view

N.N., EU representative, Belgium

2)

Football and social responsibility in diminishing violence

Patrick Gasser, Switzerland

3)

Mental and emotional health perspectives

Alexandra Fleischmann - WHO, Department Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Switzerland

4)

The 'next' structural violence and how to cope with it

Paul SCHNABEL

Institution

The Netherlands Institute for Social Research/SCP, The Hague, the Netherlands

Short notice

General Director, the Netherlands Institute for Social Research/SCP; University Professor, Utrecht University; Supervisory Board Positions (a.o.): Shell Netherlands, The Orange Welfare Fund Foundation Praemium Erasmianum, Van Gogh Museum.

Abstract

In the first decade of the 21st century structural violence mainly manifests itself in different forms of social exclusion: a diminished level of participation of specific groups in society is due to poverty, unemployment, lack of education or disability. Sex, gender, race, age, sexual orientation may also be a disadvantage. The general level of happiness is higher in societies that carry out policies to fight discrimination, ensure equity and promote emancipation. Women, homosexuals and immigrants are typical victims of structural violence in modern societies. Unlike in the 20th century the fight for emancipation and equity is less driven by ideology and more by information and communication. Everybody can literally see what happens elsewhere and make comparisons, favourably or unfavourably, with their own situation.

Web site address

www.scp.nl

Language

English (simultaneous translation into French, German, Italian and Spanish)

PARALLEL LECTURES

P2A - Poverty and health inequality

1)

Poverty and exhaustion **Clemens SEDMAK**

Institution

Centre for Ethics and Poverty Research, University of Salzburg, Austria

Short Notice

Univ.-Prof. DDDr. Clemens Sedmak, F.D. Maurice Professor for Social Ethics King's College London; Head of the Centre for Ethics and Poverty Research at the University of Salzburg; President of the IFZ – Internationales Forschungszentrum für soziale und ethische Fragen; President of the Salzburg Initiative on Ethics.

Abstract

Poverty and Exhaustion: Poverty is a struggle for identity, a situation of permanent stress to cope with life. Poverty leads into exhaustion. The talk intends to shed light on the psychological implications of poverty and possible coping mechanisms. Poverty will be presented in terms of identity issues; alleviating poverty means supporting people in their access to identity resources, i.e. to attitudes, capabilities, belonging/attachment, and material resources. A main issue of poverty is: recognition. How can we help to make people experience recognition?

Web site address

www.uni-salzburg.at/zea

Language

English (simultaneous translation into French and Italian)

2)

The violence of inequality **Richard WILKINSON**

Institution

University of Nottingham, UK

Short Notice

Richard Wilkinson is Emeritus Professor of Social Epidemiology at the University of Nottingham, Honorary Professor at University College London and at the University of York. He has worked for many years on the determinants of health inequalities and population health and has specialised particularly on the effects on whole societies of larger or smaller income differences.

Abstract:

I will show that more unequal societies, with bigger income differences between rich and poor, have higher homicide rates, lower levels of trust, weaker community life, more bullying in school and more juvenile violence. This is part of a more general pattern which suggests that greater inequality makes societies socially dysfunctional, increasing the rates of a wide range of health and social problems. I will show the evidence and discuss some of the causal processes involved.

Web site address

The Equality Trust at: www.equalitytrust.org.uk

Language

English (simultaneous translation into French and Italian)

P2B – Marginalisation: unemployment and mental illness

1)

Stigma and marginalisation: the impact on mental health

Shona STURGEON

Institution

University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa

Short Notice

Senior Lecturer, Programme Convenor, Department of Social Development, University of Cape Town. Past President, World Federation for Mental Health. President, South African Federation for Mental Health. Interests-mental health, cultural diversity, NGO management.

Abstract

World-wide, people with mental disorders and their families suffer from the effects of stigma and marginalisation that affect all aspects of their lives. Conversely, marginalisation impacts on the mental health of individuals and communities, resulting in mental illness disproportionately affecting the poor, the disadvantaged and the vulnerable. This presentation suggests that considering the high incidence of mental disorders, the intricate link with other health conditions and that treatment for mental disorders is largely community-based, it is essential that counsellors understand and address both the ignorance and fear that contributes to stigma and the consequences of this marginalisation. Counsellors are not expected to treat the mental disorders *per se*, but play a central role in dealing directly with the issues that affect individuals and families as a result of marginalisation. In addition, they have a vital advocacy role in highlighting the fact that marginalisation is structural violence and constitutes human rights abuse.

Web site address

World Federation for Mental Health web site – www.wfmh.org

Language

English (simultaneous translation into German and Spanish)

2)

Impact of unemployment on individuals and society

Hans - Udo SCHNEIDER

Institution

Pastoral service in the working environment - Protestant Church of Westphalia - Province Gladbeck - Bottrop - Dorsten; Germany

Short Notice

Protestant social ethicist / pastor with special interest in the field of industry in the province of Gladbeck – Bottrop – Dorsten / psychologist – psychotherapist

Areas of specialization: Future of work / social security systems / poverty - wealth / addiction

Publications: Alkohol/ Trunkenheit / Sucht, 1992; (Alcohol/ Drunkenness/ Addiction, 1992)

Zukunft der Arbeit in einem neuen Gesellschaftsvertrag, 2001; (The Future of Work within a New Social Contract, 2001)

Auf dem Weg der Gerechtigkeit ist Leben, 2005; (There is Life on the Path of Justice, 2005)

Menschen statt Märkte, 2006 (Men instead of Markets, 2006)

Abstract

"Unemployment is an act of violence, an assault on the physical and the emotional-mental integrity of people affected" (Oskar Negt)

Why has mass unemployment persisted in most of the developed European countries for more than 30 years?

We have to observe economic processes, such as the current financial and commercial crisis as well as unemployment, from below - from the perspective and needs of living human beings. Without this perspective there will not be any humane solutions.

Excursus: "The Unemployed from Marienthal" - the classic study by Lazarsfeld, Jahoda and Zeisel. Presentation of the most important results
The social question of the 21st century: the precariousness of work - consequences for individuals and society.

Web site address

www.arbeitneudenken.de

Language

German (simultaneous translation into English and Spanish)

P2C – Gender: specific aspects of violence

1)

Violence against women as any act of gender based violence -

Measures against violence on women and their children in Europe and Austria

Maria RÖSSLHUMER

Institution

Executive Director of the Austrian Women's Shelter Network, AÖF

Short Notice

Political Scientist, Executive Director of the Austrian Women's Shelter Network, AÖF, responsible for the nation-wide Women's Helpline against Male Violence 0800/222 555 in Austria and for the European Network WAVE-Women Against Violence Europe, since 2006 one of the Deputies of the Austrian Frauenring, one of the umbrella organizations for women NGOs in Austria. Since 2008 expert member of the Observatory in the European Women's Lobby, EWL.

Abstract

Gender-Based violence is "violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately. It includes acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty" (Para 6) United Nations (1992): General Recommendation Nr. 19 on Violence Against Women, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) 11th session, 1992, N.Y.)

Violence against women was for a long time a taboo subject in Austria and the rest of Europe. Only since the autonomous women's movement opened the first shelters (1972 in London, 1978 in Vienna) and through various women's initiatives (e.g. services for survivors of violence) has the topic received increasing publicity. According to the European women's NGO's perspective, approximately 2.060 women's shelters with some 20.200 places exist in 44 European Countries. But in order to fulfill the recommendation of the European Parliament (1986), about 80.000 shelter places for women victims of violence and their children are needed for the 802 million inhabitants of the continent. Many European countries miss effective protection laws against violence in the family. In Austria, with changes in the criminal law in 1989, rape and sexual assault in marriage became punishable. In 1988, staff of the women's shelters began to cooperate more closely with the police and offered initial training in how to deal with violence against women and children.

Since then, the topic has become a compulsory subject in police training. Violence against Women becomes a political issue with the implementation of the "Protection from violence Act" which passed the parliament in November 1996 and came into force on 1st May 1997. Accompanying the legislation, intervention/protection from violence centers were opened in every one of the nine Austrian provinces which proactively work for survivors of family violence and accompany them. But the number of femicides in Austria is still very high: 30-40 women per year are killed by their husband or ex-partner.

Website Address

www.a oef.at, www.helpline.at and www.wave-network.org

Language

German (simultaneous translation into Italian and Spanish)

2)

Gender violence and men violence. How to give up
Roberto POGGI

Institution

Association Cerchio degli uomini – Turin, Italy

Short Notice

Gestalt Counsellor; Doctor in Biologic Science. I lead and support men, men and women sharing groups about prevention for gender violence. Help line for men in trouble. Expecting fathers groups. Individual counselling sessions.

Abstract

The history of men and women relationships; matriarchal societies; origin and establishment of patriarchy. Prevarication and violence in relationships and gender relationships. Machismo. Present social structure and gender roles. Women's Lib. Feminism. Men's crisis. Search for new models. Contact with one's fragility and emotions. Difficulty in calling oneself into question. Physical, psychological, financial violence and stalking. Violent dynamics between men and women. Difficulty to give up violence. How social conditions influence violence. Silence, denial and prevention. How and when it is possible to prevent. The complementarity of victims and torturers. Persecutor masked as a victim. Orientation sessions. Training of men groups aimed to awareness, recognition and fighting violence. The change: learning how to be respectful, becoming aware of devaluation, fragility, one's own mistakes and desire for a satisfying life. Listening without judging: the experience of Il Cerchio degli Uomini from sharing groups to the help line; from support to violence prevention.

Web site address

www.cerchiodegliuomini.org

Language

Italian (simultaneous translation into German and Spanish)

P2D - Structural tools for non violent communication in organisations

1)

Sociocracy - Managing for peace
Gilles CHAREST

Institution

SOCIOGEST, Montréal - Canada

Short Notice

I work as a consultant in organization development since 1971. President of SOCIOGEST, I also lead the education department of the Global Sociocratic Center and I am in charge of the program of the International School for leaders that promoted Sociocracy worldwide.

Abstract

The leaders are now demanding practical tools for balancing efficiency and ethical conduct in the workplace and in the social life.

Since the last world war, all the research demonstrated that efficiency and ethical behaviour in organizational environment is function of the shared responsibility of all partners through a strong sense of belonging to the organization.

The study in cybernetics of self-organized system highlighted the conditions of this collaboration. The governance model based on this research is now known as Sociocracy (the power of "socius") witch mean the power derived from the social links that bind people together in achieving a common goal.

This sociocratic governance model integrates the needs of individuals and organization, simplify the modern management practices, improves productivity and puts an end to the unnecessary power struggles at the problem roots of living and working together. Those principles applies to all forms of organizations: family, school, private enterprise, associations, public interest organizations or political structures.

Web site address

www.sociogest.ca and www.ecoledeschefs.ca

Language

English

2)

Appreciative Inquiry and organisational development

Jean PAGES

Institution

IIFAI - Institut Français d'Appreciative Inquiry

Short Notice

Founder and manager of IFAI - Institut Français d'Appreciative Inquiry; Coach and consultant for private, public or government organisations; Author of « Le coaching avec la méthode Appreciative Inquiry »

Abstract

Appreciative Inquiry is a method of organisational development highly participative, grounded on the discovery of the strengths of the organisation and the construction of a collective dream for the future. Appreciative Inquiry works by defining an affirmative topic choice, interviews and meetings in which people try to find the positive core of an organisation, then share their dreams and create a collective dream, design the changes an act to implement them. Appreciative Inquiry is successful in many cases of change because it makes possible to act as well with realism than with enthusiasm. It encourages everyone in being open minded and constructive for the well being of organisation's life.

Web site address

www.infai-appreciativeinquiry.com

Language

English