

Srečo Dragoš  
EQUITY IN TRANSITION

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The substantiation of equity is not the same as its operationalisation. Thus, what is important are the different types of the realisation of equity, upon which depend the effects of this general principle on the structure of social relations. Among those types, the most significant are exchange and social equity, and in particular the relation between them. This has become the public topic in Slovenia due to the social doctrine of the Catholic Church. But because of its nebulosity the history of social and exchange equity has turned into the history of arguments among Catholic actors, which is the subject of this paper. It is evident from the comparison of how equity was understood by the official representatives of the Church before WW II and how it was applied by socialism after war that the assumptions are the same, both completely dysfunctional. Therefore with regard to the realisation of equity, Kardelj (the ideologist of the Communist Party) and Ušeničnik (a Catholic philosopher), even though ideologically apart, have more in common than, say, Ušeničnik and Gosar (a Catholic sociologist) who belonged to the same ideological camp. Why this aspect of history still carries weight is explained in the introductory part of the paper.

Walter Lorenz  
SOCIAL WORK AND THE POLITICS OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

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Social work played an important role in the formation of European nation states by helping to stabilise the boundaries of social solidarity. European unification processes are likely to reactivate this traditional role in deciding who can rightly belong to a more integrated Europe and who can be excluded from social and political protection. Social work has to look critically at its own history, how it provided the tools for distinguishing »the deserving« from »the undeserving«, and learn to challenge the potentially racist implications of a »Fortress Europe« policy. Social work is being challenged to fully realise the critical potential contained in its various intellectual and ideological traditions which aims at insuring the civil and social rights of clients irrespective of their national citizenship. This would mean participating in the strengthening of a European civil society which recognises the value of diversity and is capable of negotiating non-exclusive collective identities while advocating equality of opportunities and rights.

Gregor Adlešič  
AFTER OR BACK TO VIRTUE?

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The paper surveys and criticises the basic assumptions of MacIntyre's communitarian critique of contemporary liberal »moral scandal«, that is, his historical analysis of the causes of the lack of foundations and the rationalist incapacity to substantiate the modern nihilist »emotivist« morals which is seen as bearing the chief responsibility for the vanishing of Aristotelian ethics of virtue or the morals of the common good. In view of the controversy between the latter and the procedural individualist liberal morals of equity the question may be raised as to whether it is indeed

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possible today to take values as the product of social practices, to substantiate the morals on a uniform common good, the individual's identity (Ego) on community as a whole, and social equity on the archaic Aristotelian concept of merit, as MacIntyre does. His presentation of the so-called self-contained practices and of the concept of excellence based upon them, which serves him for his merciless critique of modern utilitarianism, pragmatism and egotism, would namely seem an unacceptable idealisation, and his argument not more than badly founded historicism.

Tanja Lamovec

### ON THE SCIENCE WHOSE NAME IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH

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The objective of this paper is to elucidate some basic assumptions and goals of the new discipline on which social work is based. A comparison is made between the theory of social work and psychology, and some differences in their respective theoretical integrative level are pointed out. Phenomenological method is used to define the basic unit of observation and caution in the formation of constructions is recommended. The discipline is still new and there is no need to repeat the mistakes of other branches of social science. The scope of activities is briefly outlined and the need for the empowering approach is explained. Several articles that have appeared in the present journal in the last few years are reviewed and appeal is made for the readers to join the discussion on basic issues of theory and practice of social work.

Tanja Velkov, Alja Klobučar, Lorena Pahovič (& Blaž Mesec)

### THE IMPACT OF INTERACTION GAMES ON ACCEPTANCE AND MUTUAL EVALUATION OF PUPILS

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The effects of social skills training, performed during the school year in two final classes of an elementary school in Ljubljana were tested using the comparison of experimental (treated) and control (untreated) groups, equalised in structure by gender, age and intelligence. At the end of the school year on all the three dependent variables, social acceptance (sociometric status), classmates' behaviour rating and perception of classmates' isolation, the ratings are lower, i. e., less favourable as at the beginning (the differences are mostly statistically significant). But after the subtraction of the differences in control groups, the pure lowering is very small (from 1,5 % to 15 % of highest possible number of points) and practically unimportant. These results are in contradiction with the expectations concerning the effect of the »games«, and in contradiction with the results of the qualitative analysis of the self-reports of the leaders of the groups, who stress the positive changes and the satisfaction of children, teachers and themselves. The possible reason of the contradiction is to be seen in the too indirect measures of the effects and in the changes in the context of measurement from pretest to posttest.