

Bojana Mesec

THE IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH AND PLANNING OF VOLUNTARY WORK

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We only have a vague notion about how many people are involved in voluntary work, what are their actual tasks, what motivates them, and how their participation is valued. The main obstacles to obtain the data are that the field is dispersed, and that many voluntary jobs remain unidentified, as 'voluntary work' does not only encompass planned actions but also non-planned, spontaneous help. Indicators of the importance of voluntary work are of statistical nature, so it is crucial that the state institutions know the methods as well as the results of research on its impact on national economy. Quantitative indicators may persuade the government to assign a more prominent role to voluntary work, and they are also useful for the promotion and expansion of the field. The elementary data are quite necessary in communication with the media, so that these may adequately present and promote voluntary work, and they inform both public and private sectors about the many ties between national and community-based projects.

*Keywords:* civil society, non-profit organisations, politics of voluntary work.

Božena Ronner

VIEWS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS ON SEXUALITY, FAMILY PLANNING AND NON-RELIGIOSITY

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The wider area of the town of Jesenice, with its traditional ironworks industry, is currently in transition from being a fading industrial complex to post-industrial modernisation. The values of young people seem stretched between these two systems. The author inquired in a questionnaire to what degree the students of Jesenice Grammar School have been affected by the processes of the second modernisation, comparing her results with a similar research from 1981. Notable differences can be spotted regarding contraception (the frequency of the response that it is a decision of parents has more than doubled) and regarding artificial ending of a pregnancy (again, the response that it is a decision of parents has doubled its occurrences).

*Keywords:* second modernisation, values, the youth.

Polona Selič

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL ABUSE

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The Convention on the Rights of the Child binds the state to observe and implement its Article 34, which defines sexual abuse, and Article 19, the first paragraph of which demands the protection of children from all forms of physical or mental violence, including sexual abuse, within their families. The Convention's guidelines are that the family is the basic and therefore the most important social group; nevertheless, the notion of the children's 'best interests' (Article 3) entails the protection of children from their parents' abuse as well (Articles 9 and 19). Sexual abuse of children is a pressing social phenomenon and a problem demanding the swiftest possible reaction of institutional networks and professional services. The protection of children from sexual violence and abuse is only possible

as a comprehensive treatment involving both victims and perpetrators. The focused treatment of sexual offenders provides the individual (the potential victim) and society with greater security and must therefore be regulated by law, which, however, is a political decision.

*Keywords:* children's rights, violence, victim, offender, forensic psycho-physiology, polygraph.

Mateja Tajnšek

EXPERIENCING MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

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The presented qualitative analysis of interviews with five persons suffering from multiple sclerosis is based on Corbin and Strauss' theory of managing chronic disease. The inflicted describe their illness biographically, from the standpoint of their life stories, as something vital, even fateful. The progress of the disease is described in detail and at length, especially the occurrences in the hospital, because this was the time when their life completely changed. A disturbed self-image was perceived in the inflicted, along with the awareness of being different. A restoration of their life is crucial for them, but they are given little or no social support. They feel it very important to link up within the Association for Multiple Sclerosis.

*Keywords:* disability, narrative, life story, discrimination.