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Colonial perceptions, frustrations and the demystification of the “noble savage” through the romantic texts of Tocqueville and Beaumont on America.

Eleftheria Karagianni

Abstract

The production of Alexis de Tocqueville's visit to America was not limited to his world-renowned, timeless and classic study *Democracy in America* (1835, 1840). Two lesser-known texts written in the same period in the form of a personal diary add, in a more descriptive and personal tone, important aspects, on the one hand of the American democratic mores during the presidency of Andrew Jackson, and on the other of the frustration felt as a result of the failed French colonization, as well as the demystification of the noble savage praised by time of Montaigne, and the Enlightenment philosophers. The current paper constitutes a socio-political approach of his two texts: *A Fortnight in the Desert* and *Visit to Lake Oneida*, that still remain unknown and untranslated in Greece. More specifically it will be analyzed how Tocqueville perceives and presents the American nature, the sublime, and the decline of the noble savage.

Keywords: Tocqueville, America, nature, noble savage, sublime.

Economic Crisis, European Orientation, and Greek Orthodox Ideology

Efstathios Kessareas

Abstract

This article examines the attitude of the Church of Greece and of basic currents of the Greek Orthodox intelligentsia towards the Greek financial crisis and the bailout referendum of 2015. In particular, it focuses on the perceptions of the causes and of the character of the crisis, as well as on the proposals for getting out of it. In addition, it explores the specific content that these proposals acquired, when the referendum fueled public controversy over the European orientation of the country. The research shows that, despite the complete contrasting representations of Europe (e.g., as “family”, “Euro-monster”, “common home”, “Europe of the Markets”, “neo-Barbarism”), there has been a peculiar but functional synergy among opposing religious currents towards the fundamental, for the political and economic elites, aim of retaining the country within the Eurozone and the European Union.

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Keywords: Orthodox Church, financial crisis, bailout referendum, ideology, religious intellectuals

How is Normality perceived during the pandemic? A qualitative study of adults

Anastasia Spyrou, Georgios Vleioras

Abstract

In the past two years, the return to normality has become imperative for many people. But what is Normality? The current study explores adults' views on this issue. Sixty individuals (70,6% women) provided their responses online to the question "What is Normality for you?". Six main themes were identified through the use of reflexive thematic analysis: Normality as the familiar routine life, Normality as freedom, the importance of human touch, the freedom to be active and creative, the absence of fear and stress, and Normality as the pre-COVID-19 reality. These views can be utilized to develop interventions for the support of people affected by the pandemic.

Keywords: normality, COVID-19, lockdown, mental health

Social attitudes towards transgender and homosexual individuals

Dennitsa Ilieva, George Alexias, Constantinos Togas, Dimitra Lekka

Abstract

The aim of this study was to investigate the social attitudes towards transgender individuals and lesbians and gay men. A cross-sectional study was conducted with a sample of 273 people (n = 273) from the Greek general population. The duration of the study was six months (January-June 2019). The questionnaire that was used included demographic information as well as the following scales: 1) the Attitudes Towards Transgender Individuals Scale and 2) the Attitudes Toward Lesbians and Gay Men Scale. SPSS v.25 was used for the analysis of the data. The attitudes toward transgender individuals were not particularly negative. Older and religious people and those with a lower level of education had more negative attitudes. In contrast, the impact of gender, socioeconomic class and occupation was not significant. Future

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research is needed to confirm the results of this study and to investigate the role of additional demographic characteristics.

Keywords: Social attitudes, transgender, gay men, lesbians, demographic characteristics

Psychosocial support services for refugee women victims of gender-based violence: Basic principles and good practices

Maria Tritari, Chrysovalantis Papathanasiou

Abstract

Aim: The current study aims to present the fundamental principles and good practices of psychosocial support services for refugee women victims of gender-based violence. **Method:** A descriptive literature review was conducted. **Results:** The fundamental principles of a support service are the following: a) qualified staff, b) protection of human dignity, c) 24-hour services, d) advocacy, and e) childcare. The psychosocial support services are categorized as: a) counselling centres, b) shelters, and c) helplines. **Discussion:** In Greece, there is a lack of support services aiming at this population. The development of modern and specialized services as well as the adaptation of international organizations' guidelines on the already existing services, are highly needed.

Keywords: refugee women, gender violence, support services, shelters

Η εργασιακή ηθική του δημόσιου τομέα υπό το πρίσμα της ηθικής συμπεριφοράς και φαινομένων ηθικής παρενόχλησης: Μια πρόταση προς εξυγίανση μέσω ανάπτυξης της διαπολιτισμικής επικοινωνιακής ικανότητας

Θανοπούλου Χ. Δήμητρα, Δρ. Καρράς Ιωάννης

Abstract

The purpose of this article is to highlight the link between work ethics and intercultural communication competence, so as to propose it as a means to consolidate the public sector with the help of intercultural education. Through this literature review, an attempt is being made to underline the positive correlation between intercultural competence, moral behaviour and respect for diversity, but also the phenomena of moral and psychological harassment in the absence of work ethics. Therefore, according to this

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theoretical reflection, an interculturally competent public servant who demonstrates moral behaviour and respect for diversity could be considered a comparative advantage for an organisation in a constantly changing public administration milieu.

Keywords: Work ethics, psychological harassment, intercultural communication competence, public administration