

# Summaries

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**John Zaimakis**

*Multiculturalism and social inequalities:  
the case of Muslim Minority in Western Thrace*

The article illustrates some views of the current debate of multiculturalism emphasizing on the issue of social inequalities in the case of Muslim Minority at Western Thrace. Considering the historical framework of the restrictive measures of Greek State against Muslim Minority and the findings of two researches on the spot the article attempts to investigate some dimensions of social exclusion, economic underdevelopment and disadvantageous position of the Minority. The analysis elevates the significance of the ignored class dimension and explores the perspective of the implementation of development policies based on the principles of social justice, equality and human rights.

**N. Tsiros**

*The Greek legal system  
in the age of post-modernity*

The sociological dimension of the present article is based on the observation that contemporary Greek law is demanded to solve the problems of an ever more complicated social environment. Thus, first of all, two of the most crucial theories on modern law, which attempt to explain the mode of connection between the legal system and the complicated social structures of our time, are reviewed. The theories in view are the formalistic dialogical theory of law in the work of Habermas and the autopoietic theory of law in the work of Luhmann. Further on, the sociological reasons for the recent crisis in the Greek judicial system are exposed, whereas the article closes with the author suggesting a combination of both mentioned theories to the benefit of a more essential, as well as more rational service to justice from the side of the Greek judge.

### **E. Papadimitriou**

#### *Environmental behavior and sustainability*

In the framework of the social/political debate on the environment, there have been various views on the subject of sustainable development, as well as proposals concerning the strategy for establishing this specific «model». It is common ground between the various approaches that sustainable growth requires modifications of the individual's daily practices and change of the modern way of life. In turn, these changes call for the development of environmental awareness: i.e. the construction of positive environmental attitudes matched by corresponding behaviors.

This study is concerned with the issue of incongruity between environmental attitudes and environmental behaviors. The analysis and interpretation of current environmental research data together with the presentation of some theoretical approaches focus on the various aspects of environmental behavior and bring about questions on the relationship between environmental behavior and the other dimensions of environmental awareness; they also attempt to contribute in the formation of proposals to improve environmental performance in daily life.

### **G. Roussopoulos**

#### *An epistemological investigation of the interpretive anthropology of Clifford Geertz*

The interpretive theoretical programme of Clifford Geertz's anthropology develops within the framework of «the classical norms» of anthropology. Special consideration is given to the philosophical problems raised by the development and the character of his programme, in particular to the problem of knowledge produced therein. The ethical-political problem concerns the intricate relations between the indigenous culture and the home culture of the anthropologist; the epistemological problem discussed concerns the status of the knowledge produced by the interpretive anthropology of Clifford Geertz and the representational form it takes.

**Ar. Zmas**

*The theoretical background of the PISA  
research and its influence  
in the school environment*

PISA is one of the most famous international studies on the evaluation of educational achievement in the last years. The first part of the article examines the theoretical background of the PISA study. It argues that PISA is based on a functionalist approach to education («education as competence») and that this utilitarian view of education restricts the school's pedagogical character. The second part of the paper provides an overview of the public and the political reactions that followed the publishing of the results of the study in Greece and Germany. It is argued that the empirical findings should be interpreted carefully based on appropriate theoretical knowledge in order to avoid simplistic «solutions» for educational policy.

**Th. Kargidis, Chr. Sarmaniotis**

*Development of incorporate training  
through the use of an e-learning model employment  
in the framework of an integrated knowledge  
management system*

Recently there is an effort by companies to adapt to the demands of international competition and the «new economy». «New economy» is a relatively complex phenomenon. It is characterized by a strategic combination of organizational changes, formulation of policies and development of skills (based on innovation and creativity), which are triggered off by the international competition and the introduction of new technologies in business processes. Effective Knowledge Management, which is created in the context of a business, is a very important factor for high performance and in many cases, it is considered a company's competitive advantage. Knowledge Management is closely related to the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) during the learning process within the company and specially when models of e-learning are involved. This paper describes and elaborates an e-learning model in the framework of an integrated Knowledge Management System.

**K. Siriopoulos, G. Pomonis**

*Profile differences of postgraduate students  
in business education programs*

The aim of this survey is to explore if postgraduate students of business education may run the risk of selecting an education program that does not fit to them in terms, either of teaching and learning processes and their preferred learning styles, or of vocational perspectives suitable to their learning styles and types. A questionnaire based on Kolb's Learning Style Inventory v.3 was administered to 255 students of Master's programs of six Greek Universities. Results show differences in students' general characteristics, in teaching and learning strategies, and in their vocational suitability. These differences should have implications on students' course selection and on Academic Institutions' policies. The implications mainly relate to the teaching and learning strategies, to the cost effectiveness of studies, to the Academic Institutions' policy to attract students, and to business staffing.

**A.A. Ifanti, V.F. Passas**

*Views and politics of the federation of primary school  
teacher on multiculturalism at primary  
education in Greece*

This article explores the views of the Federation of Primary School Teachers (DOE) on multiculturalism as regards the Greek primary schools nowadays and investigates its politics about the education of students minorities in such a context. Following the discourse analysis method, 83 issues of the Federation's official bulletin of the period 1992-2004 were studied together with some selected texts from the proceedings of DOE's general meetings and the relevant statements made by DOE's presidents. As a result, five categories were developed that were concerned with DOE's stances on the contemporary multicultural school, the multicultural classes, the educational inequalities and the students drop-out, the function of supportive education institutions and the teachers' in-service training. In conclusion, DOE is not confined itself to describe and point out the issue but makes propositions about the education for all students in a multicultural school, eventhough it still meets with difficulties in more actively participating in the educational decision making process in Greece.



**Vasiliki Pliogou***The depiction of families through  
language textbooks in primary education*

The purpose of this article is to present information of families through language textbooks in primary education. Within the twenty two volumes used, there are only two texts relevant to the subject of diversity among families. The two texts are found in C and D grade textbooks, respectively. This confirms the view that topics relevant to nontraditional family forms are considered inappropriate and are, therefore, forbidden. However, the modern Greek social reality is marked by the augmentative trends of the number of divorces, of childbearing outside of marriage, and the percentage of separated couples as well. As a result, there is an increase in the number of pupils who are brought up in nontraditional family forms. And the more the notion of the nuclear family is presented as the only «normal» circumstance, the more children of single-parent families suffer the effects of discrimination.

