

ABSTRACTS

Workplace Harassment, Mental Health and Work Life of Teachers of Primary and Secondary Education.

Anthoula Dolkera, Eleni Andreou

Workplace harassment is an extremely corrosive phenomenon that exerts a negative influence on the professional status and psychosocial well-being of employees. The aim of the present study was to record the prevalence of labor harassment among teachers in Greece and how workplace harassment affects mental health and working life of teachers. The sample consisted of 508 teachers serving in public primary and secondary schools in Greece. To achieve this goal, the Negative Acts Questionnaire (NAQ) and the General Health Questionnaire (GHQ) were used. According to the results, 11.6% of teachers have been victims of work-related harassment over the past 6 months and workplace harassment is negatively related to levels of work satisfaction, mental health and perceived productivity. The findings are examined in the light of relative contemporary research.

Keywords: Workplace Harassment, teachers, mental health, occupational satisfaction, productivity.

Emotional intelligence and teachers' burnout.

Elias Dionisios Flabouras Nietos, Athanasios Koustelios, Eleni Zournatzi

This research aimed at investigating the effect of emotional intelligence on the burnout levels of teacher working in state schools. The survey involved 430 teachers working in state primary and secondary schools in different regions of the country. Participants completed questionnaires that evaluated emotional intelligence and burnout. The results analysis of multiple regression revealed that emotional intelligence play a significantly predictive role in all dimensions of burnout. It seems then that it is imperative to implement specific interventions and programmes in order to enhance the teachers' emotional intelligence as well as to preventive measures to avoid burnout symptoms.

Keywords: Emotional intelligence, burnout, education.

Referenced practices of nursery teachers for literacy: Using an integrated model for the understanding and interpretation of emerging literacy in kindergarten.

Eirini Papanastasatou, Efthymia Penteris

The paper examines the reported practices of kindergarten teachers in relation to the promotion of literacy in the kindergarten. For the purposes of this research we constructed a questionnaire, which reflects the framework of the comprehensive emergent literacy model (Rohde, 2015), which focuses on the holistic and interactive process of the major components of literacy and emphasizes on the key role of the environment, here the kindergarten, for the acquisition of relevant skills. 260 kindergarten teachers from 29 prefectures of Greece participated in the study. The least and most emphasized practices of kindergarten teachers are presented and their characteristics that may be related to their implementation are examined. The results of the study, focusing on the low frequency of practices that describe collaboration with the family, are discussed, among else, in relation to the relevant training needs of the kindergarten teachers.

Keywords: literacy, kindergarten teachers' practices, comprehensive literacy model.

"Diglossia in Cyprus": Unanswered questions and unseen aspects of the Greek Cypriot context.

Kalia Drousioti

The present article aims to clarify the meaning of diglossia and to critique the view that the Greek-Cypriot dialect follows a relationship of (Fergusonian) diglossia with the Standard Modern Greek, which is widely expressed over the past decades. In particular, the present article aims to shed light on important questions and aspects of the sociolinguistic situation of Cyprus that this view has simultaneously raised and obscured. Furthermore, since important questions and aspects remain unanswered and silenced, the assertion that the Standard Modern Greek is selected for formal situations, learned at school and considered artificial and foreign to the Greek Cypriots who only acquire the Greek-Cypriot dialect should be critically re-examined. It will be shown that scholars who claim that the linguistic situation of Cyprus is diglossic also consider the (Greek) ethnic identity of Greek-Cypriots problematic. These scholars give in to ideological treatments of 'ethnos' and incriminate it for the collapse of the bi-communal state of Cyprus. In such operations, diglossia becomes an ideological tool which truncates the Greek-Cypriot linguistic context and tailors it to the purposes of a currently widely disseminated metanarrative.

Keywords: diglossia, Greek-Cypriot dialect and Standard Modern Greek.

Special Tribute: 5th International Conference on Applied Economics “Institutions & Development”

The “Theory of the Leisure Class” in the Homeric era.

Paschalis Arvanitidis, Neofytos Pantelis Papadopoulos

The “Theory of the Leisure Class” is the masterpiece of Thorstein Veblen, the founder of Institutional Economics. In this, Veblen analyzes the formation and evolution of socio-economic institutions based on the economic behavior of the upper social, “leisure”, class. The current paper summarizes the key elements of the Veblenian theory and examines it in the Homeric era, as this is depicted in the Iliad. The Iliad is a significant source of information of the society in the Dark Age Greece, a period for which available historical sources are scarce. The poem, alongside with the events of the Trojan War, outlines the characteristics and behavior of the leisure class, and the whole society of that time in general, providing valuable information for understanding, evaluating and validating the key concepts of the Veblenian theory.

Keywords: Iliad, Greek Dark Age, Theory of the Leisure Class, Veblen.

The macro-cultural origins of the United States of America.

Ganas Nikitas, Kyriazis Nikolas

The birth of the USA was something unique, not only for its impact on the course of world history but also for the development of democracy. The English colonies which were established in 1776 in the United States of America were holders of a unique heritage of institutions, ideas and political experience that gradually have been gaining for one and a half centuries before they attained their independence in comparison with other New World colonies or other colonies in others parts of the world that achieved independence in the 20th century. In this research we examine how institutions and values can interpret the creation of democracy in the US by using the macroculture tool. Investigating the history of the United States, we traced four crucial fields-milestones: religion, the existence of early representative institutions, the development of agriculture, and the geographical position combined with the absence of a feudal order. The standards and values that emerged through the above-mentioned fields-milestones were gradually transferred to the political field and shaped the macropolitics of the United States. It is finally highlighted that these values have decisively advocated the establishment of a strong democratic system.

Keywords: differentiated instruction, perceptions, secondary education.

Do European Works Councils contribute to the Europeanization of industrial relations? A bi-sectoral approach.

Theodore Koutroukis

As reported in similar studies, the necessity for social cohesion and workers motivation has resulted in the adoption of EU 94/45/EC on European Works Councils (EWCs). This fact has been the cornerstone of the venture to establish a social dimension of the European Union, since it gives employees the right of access to information and consultation as part of the effort to develop a socially responsible transnational management.

This paper includes several results and their assessment of a research conducted on the introduction and functioning of EWCs in a national industrial relations system. The research concentrated on the oil/lubricants and food/beverage sectors. More specifically, the aim of that paper is to examine the hypothesis that EWCs contribute to the Europeanization of the Greek industrial relations at national and company levels and to explore the determining factors of that fact, using qualitative approaches in a combination with several case studies and interviews with employer and employee representatives. The findings indicate that EWCs contribute to the Europeanization of employee relations, and especially, to the co-ordination of social partners' organizations at the European level, the promotion of European Human Resources policies, the emergence of a European system of Industrial Relations, the improvement of labour-management communication and the convergence of employee relations within multinational groups. Although, pertinent EWCs' contribution has been limited in those issues that are - if not wished -, fully controlled by the MNCs.

Keywords: *European Works Councils, Europeanization, Multinational Companies.*

Co-Financed Programs and their contribution to Regional and Local Development in Greece.

Delitheou Vassiliki, Podimatas Eleftherios, Michalaki Evanthia

Greece is characterized by geomorphological features as it is a mountainous country and, at the same time, has the most inhabited islands in Europe. Moreover, the population is not shared equally across the territory, but it is concentrated in the two metropolitan centers (Athens - Thessaloniki) which leads to an unequal distribution of resources between regions and unfavorable growing conditions in the less developed regions. So, it should be a rational response to the problems, identified in an effort to eliminate the regional disparities and its impacts. The Development Planning and Regional Planning determine the policy, which must be exercised in order to obtain balanced development in space, without violating the relevant regulations of the European Union. In Greece the Development Planning and Regional Planning

of the country was mainly done through the Integrated Mediterranean Programmes (IMP) 1986-1992, three Community Support Frameworks, the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) 2007-2013 and the current Program (NSRF) 2014-2020. These regional development policy programs are not only based on national resources but are co-financed by European Union as well. The orientation of the above said development and thematic objectives are adjusted in each programming period to the needs of each region and its characteristics. The main objectives of Europe 2020 is smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, which in the NSRF 2014-2020 in our country may be pursued through eleven (11) thematic goals. In the embodiment of these development directions of the NSRF 2014-2020 program contribute the municipalities of each region, as they can exploit and co-fund programs aiming at smaller spatial scales (LAU 1).

This article aims to approach the importance and contribution of the above mentioned programs to the promotion of Regional and Local Development in Greece.

Keywords: Regional Programming, Co-funded Programmes, Regional Development, Local Development.