

Zeitschrift: Schweizerische Zeitschrift für Soziologie = Revue suisse de sociologie
= Swiss journal of sociology
Herausgeber: Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Soziologie
Band: 30 (2004)
Heft: 1

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3 Editorial [G] | Beat Fux

5 What does Normal Mean in an Individualised Society? [G] | Hans-Joachim Hoffmann-Nowotny[†]

This posthumous article is the revised version of a lecture addressed to an interdisciplinary audience, in particular to psychologists and psychiatrists. It starts with a general discussion of the concept of norms in the social sciences. By contrasting in particular “individual norms” on the one hand and “social norms” on the other, the author wins an analytical platform to discuss the societal process of individualisation. In his contribution, he tries to bring together two broad topics on which he had been working since the early 1980s, namely the idea of a society of singles and the structure-culture paradigm. On this basis, he wanted to draft a picture of the future of individualized societies.

21 Thinking out of the No Man’s Land. Life and Work of Theodor W. Adorno [G] | Stefan Müller-Doohm

Out of the vision of a happy life free of boundaries and limitations Adorno had found to a picture without images of the true life: a No Man’s Land as a place for the not identical. A No Man’s Land was to him a symbol for a place where one may be different without fear and where contraries can be lived in their extremes without having to choose from the beginning which side to be on.

35 Problem of the “Voluntaristic Action Theory” of Richard Münch [G] | Thomas Kron

This contribution analyses to what extent the “Voluntaristic Action Theory” of Richard Münch represents a “general theory of action”. As a result it appears that especially the explanation of the core of this action theory – the axiom of interpenetration – lacks an actor-theoretical foundation.

59 Between Poverty Management and Social Work: Forms of Organization of Social Welfare in Switzerland [G] | Christoph Maeder and Eva Nadai

The federally structured social welfare in Switzerland is the subject of this research. Social welfare, located theoretically between discipline and social integration, is described and analysed by means of ethnographic techniques of research on both levels of its organization

and its practice. Three quite distinct forms of organization of social welfare can be reconstructed in analogy to historical patterns of the handling of poverty by the state: poverty management, paternalistic and semi-professional social welfare. These local cultures of help are all based on bureaucratic structures and exert a strong influence on the possibilities and limitations of social work within the social welfare.

**77 Modernising Nation, Modernising Sexuality: The Regulation of
Homosexuality in the Codification of Swiss Criminal Law [E] | Natalia Gerodetti**

The reform of sexual regulations was part of processes of modernisation such as industrialisation or urbanisation. In both private and public spheres the construction of norms about the body, gender and sexuality turned them into sites of moral, political and social struggles. The second half of the nineteenth century is a key period for analysing the intersection between gender, sexuality and processes of modernisation, including the codification into law which this article seeks to examine through the example of discourses on homosexuality in the Swiss legislative process. Discussions about homosexuality also provided a platform for the professionalisation of newly emerging fields such as psychiatry. The making of the Swiss Criminal Code provides an exemplary site to examine constructions of sexualities, in particular homosexuality, in relation to the whole nation whose anxieties about future generations were significantly mapped onto sexualities and their regulation.

**99 An Analysis of the Relationship between Young People, their Projects and
the Local Context [F] | Jean-Luc Roques**

The article approaches the projects of young people as the organizers of their own experiences. Two types of projects are examined. In the cases where the young people participate, we will consider them “in project”. In the cases where they hold back, we will say they are “in anti-project”. The classical variables such as gender, age, parents’ profession do have a considerable impact. Nevertheless, the local context seems to be quite an important dimension as well. One can try and explain this impact with the local opportunities. But one has also to take into account the collective consciences on the local level and especially the images they convey. The meaning of the different projects can be examined under the perspective of these various local forces.

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