

ENGLISH ABSTRACTS ENGLISCHE ZUSAMMENFASSUNGEN

ABSTRACTS

ENDRE J. NAGY (p. 167)

Simone Weil: The Mystical Ascetic: The essay deals with the life and work of the great but contested figure of Catholicism of the last century, Simone Weil. It follows up the career of her life from the intellectual illumination (mystical visions) through her destiny event (submerged in the 'sub-world') up till her resistance to being baptised. It looks at her teachings together with Max Weber's theory on modernisation, that is, the 'Ausdifferenzierungen' of various spheres of life (economy, politics, etc.), that excludes the possibility of life and of the ethics of brotherliness in the 20th century. The essay seeks to point out the life and work of Simone Weil as a whole but disapproves of this tenet. For she has found in everyday life holiness and sacrilege at the same time, from which God is revealed. The essay deals with the question why she resisted being baptised emphasising that the main reason was her keeping aloof of the Old Testament and that in her view the Church showed totalitarian traits throughout its history.

Keywords: conversion, mystical visions, ascetic mode of life, Catholicism without baptism, independent life-spheres, ethics of brotherliness, rationalised economy, obligations towards mankind

EUGENE JOSEPH, JOZEF CORVELEYN, PATRICK LUYTEN & HANS DE WITTE (p. 187)

Does Commitment to Celibacy Lead to Burnout or Enhance Engagement? A Study among the Indian Catholic Clergy: Burnout and engagement in general are thought to be associated mostly with work related factors and sometimes with personal factors as well. Over the past three decades a number of studies among clergy have identified various causes for priests' susceptibility to burnout and have linked various independent variables in the study of burnout among clergy. However, a study on the association between commitment to celibacy, burnout and engagement among clergy has not been attempted. Is celibacy psychologically a possible way of life? In the Catholic Church (Latin Rite), the sacrament of Holy Orders for the presbyterate is normally conferred only on candidates who are ready to freely embrace and publicly manifest their intention of staying celibate for the love of God's kingdom and the service of human beings. This study among Indian Catholic clergy contributes to the literature of burnout and engagement by studying the association of commitment towards priestly celibacy with clergy burnout and engagement – a new venture in the field of burnout and engagement. In addition, for the first time the construct of engagement has been used among clergy. Hierarchical regression analyses in the sample of 511 Catholic diocesan priests from South India confirmed that commitment to celibacy was negatively associated with burnout (that is it had a negative association with emotional exhaustion and depersonalisation and a positive association with

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personal accomplishment), and on the other hand, it was positively associated with engagement.

Keywords: clergy burnout, clergy engagement, commitment to celibacy, diocesan priests, Catholic Church

ANTAL KOVÁTS (p. 205)

The View Hungarian School Children Have of Germans and German-Speaking Countries:

The paper presents the results of a follow-up study to a survey carried out 25 years earlier, which looked at the view of Germans held by Hungarian 8th grade primary school children. In addition to determining how children at the end of their primary school studies viewed German-speaking countries and people, the purpose of the study was also to examine the degree to which their sources of information e.g., school, family, media and people they know influenced this picture. The assessment that was carried out also provided feedback to education policymakers regarding the efficiency of the transfer of knowledge to children via various subjects and other information sources, and about how this knowledge is incorporated into their larger set of knowledge. Besides the political changes of 1989–1990, the time is right to revisit the topic because of the amount of changes in the sources of information that influence the views held of Germans over this quarter of a century. In general, the influence of the media has become stronger, the social environment has changed, and there are also new points of emphasis in teaching. In part, the study served as an assessment of the current situation concerning the view school children have of Germans and German-speaking countries, while on the other hand, the aim was to compare these with the results from 25 years ago. After introducing the problem and the preparations for conducting the survey, the paper presents the considerations for selecting respondents, the questions and their purpose, the principles employed in evaluating the completed questionnaires, and the statistical results. Following a comparison of the results from 1980 and 2005, the stereotypical opinion of school children is compared to other similar results from Hungary and abroad. In closing, a review of relevant textbooks used by schools is presented in light of the questions posed. This was done in order to determine to what extent these might have contributed to the knowledge or lack thereof identified in relation to the questions examined. Differences between the questions used in the two questionnaires were minimised, in order to ensure that the responses could be compared. Some of the questions were not related to knowledge gained within the curriculum, in the fields of geography, history, and general knowledge, but rather focused on the emotions of school children regarding the issue.

Keywords: knowledge, stereotypes, efficiency of teaching, emotions, synthesizing learning, school children, Germans, German-speaking countries, survey

BEATRIX KISS-GEOSITS (p. 239)

A Study of Factors Influencing Burnout in Teachers in Western Hungary: It is obvious to professionals employed in teaching and education that over the course of their work they continuously need to face a multitude of emotional reactions from children and adults, and need to

address the reasons and effects of such. Thus, it is important for them to be knowledgeable of the factors that render easier or more difficult the education process itself, their work, and the conscious ways of combating these difficulties; this, while staying psychologically and emotionally functional both in their work and in their private life. In their helping profession, their most important tool is obviously their own personality. It is important for them to be able to help others, but it is equally important to be able to take care of themselves, these being the two sides of the same process. A person's emotional life affects others – therefore it is not simply a private issue – whereas others, their circumstances, and their way of life affect the state of their inner self. This study set the goal of examining the factors influencing burnout in teachers. It therefore focuses on certain elements of choosing a profession, interests, needs, the relationship between the individual and the environment, parental upbringing attitudes, career patterns in the family, and satisfaction about career choice. Through the question of work and mental health, the author examines the degree to which professional, financial, and moral recognition influence burnout, the impact of the relationship with colleagues and the manager on the risk of burnout, and the connection between symptoms of physical health (days off work / sick leave) and mental health. The author further refines the issue studied along factors of sex, years spent in the profession, and manager / employee status.

Keywords: teacher, career choice, interests, motivation, parental upbringing attitude, burnout, risk of burnout, professional, financial and moral recognition

PÉTER TÖRÖK, ISTVÁN NAGY & MÁTÉ JOÓB (p. 257)

Charitable Activities of Historical Christian Churches in Hungary during Communism, and their Effects on Post-Communist Charitable Church Activities; Part 2: In addition to assessing charitable activities of historical Christian churches in Hungary during Communism from a fact-finding, descriptive angle, this two-part study also provides a view of what effects these have had on post-Communist charitable church activities. Understandably, this necessitates a brief overview of the types and volume of charitable activities carried out by the Catholic, Reformed and Lutheran churches prior to the Communist power grab. In the years following the Second World War, the majority of church-run social institutions came under State control. The new employees often looked upon the tasks they were to carry out only as a way of making a living, and they lacked a commitment to the service they were to perform. The way in which State Socialist politics strove to use charity and the diaconate in their efforts was aimed at exhausting church and faith, and can be clearly observed. The measures, according to which practically only those institutions where missionary work was impossible (or possible only to a minor degree) could remain in church hands, also served this end. Church leaders who tried to ensure survival by adhering to the official line, also partly became partners to the state. It was considered a step forward when badly paid positions that required hard work and commitment at State-run social institutions were filled by qualified, able labour based on church recommendations and nominations. During the period of dictatorship, charitable activities by congregations and parishes also experienced a strong setback. Following the collapse of Communism, all three churches displayed the intention of reviving their charitable activities by maintaining spirituality and charisma despite a necessary institutionalisation process and strict professionalism. The analysis also pinpoints some cases that highlight the pitfalls of relations with the post-Communist state. The first half of the study presented the operation of helping

services linked to Protestant churches, with the Reformed and Evangelical churches discussed separately. The second part provides an overview of the conditions of Catholic charity during the years of dictatorship, using similar considerations, and also takes a look at the times before the Second World War and the changed circumstances following the fall of Communism in 1989.

Keywords: diaconate, Hungary, communism, state socialism, dictatorship, history, retrospect, helping profession, institutionalisation, local initiative, church-state relations

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