BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

IV ISA Forum of Sociology

Porto Alegre, Brazil · February 23-27, 2021 · Events Center PUCRS

Virtual

Challenges of the 21st Century: Democracy, Environment, Inequalities, Intersectionality

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International Sociological Association

SOCIEDADE BRASILEIRA DE SOCIOLOGIA

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RC34-434.3

BONETA, ZELJKO* (University of Rijeka, Croatia)
MRAKOVCIC, MARKO* (University of Rijeka, Croatia)

Confidence in Institutions, Political Orientations and Attitudes of Croatian Students

After the disintegration of socialist Yugoslavia, Croatian society underwent a transformation of its political and economic (sub)systems. Although Croatian society has faced numerous challenges in its transitional development, democracy, democratic rule of law and equality of all citizens have become values that are nowadays advocated, at least declaratively, by the vast majority of political and social actors. Nevertheless, the war and the challenges of transition have led to the fact that a large number of citizens do not have confidence in important social institutions whose functioning is necessary for the operation and legitimation of an effective democratic order.

Consequently, in this paper, based on the survey conducted on the student sample (N = 635), we analyze: (1) the level of confidence that students, as part of the "generation" born and raised in the post-socialist period, have in important institutions of Croatian society and (2) their political attitudes.

The results show that, on average, students do have not confidence in most institutions: political parties, political institutions, the judiciary, the Church, and tthe media. The institution in which more than a half of the respondents have confidence is education. When it comes to political attitudes, students mostly reject rigid ethnocentrism and clericalism. On the contrary, they accept multiculturalism and are indecisive towards scientism. Statistical analysis shows that the students' political orientations (left, center, right) and political attitudes are corelated to the level of their confidence in social institutions.

Given the fact that students express high distrust in key political institutions, it can be concluded that they doubt the efficiency (functionality) of the democratic order in Croatia. At the same time, the expressed confidence in educational institutions and the acceptance of multiculturalism can be the basis for an optimistic conclusion about the existence of potential for strengthening the further democratization of Croatian society.

RC05-61.1

BONHOMME, MACARENA* (Goldsmiths, University of London, & COES, United Kingdom)

Racism Against Racialised Latin American and Caribbean Migrants in a Multicultural Neighbourhood in Santiago, Chile

South-South migration becomes an interesting opportunity to understand the complex dynamics of racism and racial formations of Latin American and Caribbean populations. Accordingly, Chile –one of the countries with major destination flows from the region– is one of the quintessential settings to study such issues. Drawing on a 17-month ethnography, visual methods and 70 in-depth interviews between 2015 and 2018, I analyse the current ways in which racism operates in the everyday in a multicultural underprivileged neighbourhood in Santiago. This paper shows how the ideology of racism not only stands as a discourse but rather, it is embedded in the everyday experience and materialised in urban space. It contributes to unveiling the different forms of exclusions based on 'race' that I observed in several events that occurred in and beyond the neighbourhood. I unravel the emergence of new racisms in the context of migration, and how nationalisms and colonial sediments re-emerge to determine power hierarchies. Furthermore, I reveal how racial exclusions are performed in the city through different exclusionary dynamics against racialised migrants, especially afrodescendants. Chileans and former migrants claim to belong through different practices and interactions in urban space, constraining the 'right to the city' (Harvey, 2008) of racialised newcomer migrants. I analyse the emergence of hierarchies in the neighbourhood and how the production of difference reproduce colonial racial hierarchies in which African and indigenous ancestries are reconstructed, and an imagined 'whiteness' is produced to sustain the power dynamics in place. I particularly shed lights into how differently racism is performed against certain migrant populations. While some would face racism and hatred more directly, others would experience it in subtler ways, yet still experience exclusion: racism takes several and shifting forms to endure and reinforce social division in multicultural urban Chile.

RC31-387.2

BONHOMME, MACARENA* (Goldsmiths, University of London, & COES, United Kingdom)

The Blurred Boundaries of 'Legality'/'Illegality': How Latin American and Caribbean Migrants Negotiate State Racism in Chile

Racist state politics have not only been embedded since colonialism and the construction of the Chilean nation-state by the systematic denial of the presence and rights of Afrochileans and indigenous communities but reinforced by migratory policies that have historically made distinctions between 'desirable' and 'undesirable' migrants. The administrative amendments to the migration policies and the arbitrary character of border controls have progressively restrained the mobilities of Latin American and Caribbean migrants, predominately afrodescendants. These changes have not stopped these mobilities, but rather, have made migration more dangerous and challenging, producing different forms of 'illegalities'. Drawing on a 17-month ethnography and in-depth interviews, this paper examines the impact of those restrictions and exclusionary boundaries on migrants' everyday lives by understanding how they navigate such constraints and claim to belong amidst this continuously changing political scenario. Different life stories show how the path to 'legality' and certainty paradoxically entails resorting to 'illegal' means in order to achieve the desired permanent residency. Beyond border controls and the establishment of new consular visas, the state continues controlling migrant mobilities within the national border through the different immigration statuses that hierarchise migrants and impact their everyday lives due to its uncertain character. These lead to the production of multiple 'illegalities' as the only way to navigate these uncertainties, giving rise to different kinds of profiteering and abuse, which makes migrants subject of precarity and exclusion. I reveal how migrants are forced to negotiate the blurred boundaries of 'legality'/'illegality' in order to become or remain 'legal'. Furthermore, I analyse how the state has produced those 'illegalities' through the restrictions imposed not only at the border but also within the country. This study shows how the state and its immigration legislation, by producing a context of uncertainty, has created invisible, racialised and gendered boundaries for migrants.

RC28-331.5

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Neighborhood Effects in Educational Trajectories in the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires

In recent years the analysis of the effects of neighborhoods on inequality has gained importance in social stratification studies. Traditionally, social origins, whether measured by class or educational origins, has been the focus of intergenerational reproduction analysis; nowadays, the neighborhood appears as a mediation mechanism that impacts on educational attainment. Specifically, neighborhood effects are considered relevant in educational trajectories and attainment insofar spatial inequalities have mechanisms that can favor social reproduction or upward social mobility. The aim of this paper is to analyze the neighborhood effects on educational trajectories from residents of the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires taking into account their class origins. For this, we will use quantitative methodology based on survey data which we will analyze with the R-package TraMineR that allows visualizing sequential data.

RC52-639.3

BONNIN, DEBBY* (University of Pretoria, South African, South Africa)

The State and Professions in South Africa

This paper examines the role of the post-Apartheid state in the regulation of professions in South Africa. Post 1994 the South African state embarked on a regulatory overhaul of the professions. New regulatory legislation was introduced for many of the traditional professions (medical, legal, and accounting). The primary concern of the state was to ensure that the broader public regardless of race or gender had access both to the profession and to the services of the profession. To achieve this, the initial focus of the state was to remove power from professional groups. Different professions responded differently to this initiative. But in all cases the regulatory bargain between state and profession had to be renegotiated. However, the eventual outcomes were different regulatory environments for different professions. Some professions (eg the legal profession) were able to retain their ability to self-regulate, while others (eg auditing profession) did not.

This paper uses this empirical example to examine more broadly the relationship between states and professions. It suggests that the one needs to look more closely at the different state institutions and actors who are involved in decisions and processes around the regulation of professions in order to understand outcomes regarding regulation and the power of professional groups. The paper will also highlight the importance of understanding the different interests and values, from the perspective of both the state and the professional group, that might influence the regulatory project.

*** denotes a presenting author.** Abstracts are organized by first presenting author's last name.