

Abstracts

Sustainable Development and Organizational Networks. The Experience of PYMES in Mexico

Adalberto Cabello Chávez, Raúl Conde Hernández
y Rafael Reyes Ave-llaneda.

This essay explores the definition of PYMES (small and medium size business) used in Mexico and it also contests to the one provided by statistics (primarily based on sales volume and number of workers). PYMES are business sustained by peculiar models of administration as well of access to economic and financial resources. The methodology applied to this research attempts at distinguishing differences about the conceptual use of sustainable development and subcontracting networks. Two local experiences were revised in the article in order to prove the role played by PYMES in reordering markets and spaces at the local and regional levels.

Representations and Beliefs on Wasting and Preserving Water

Óscar Rodríguez Cerda, Myriam Melo Carrasco, Alma Rosa
Sánchez, Karla García y Arianna Lázaro

Beliefs about preserving or wasting water are analysed in housewives groups. A model is also proposed for understanding social representations of water consumption, where beliefs on abundance play a role in determining the figurative texture of the representation. It is observed that groups prefer either to negotiate or to dose, instead of recycling water. The different meanings of the relationship administration-dosage are present in practices opposed to the waste.

The Valley of Mexico's Eastside: Its Socio-Urban Characteristics

Enrique Moreno Sánchez

This article tries to explain the general characteristics of the Valley of Mexico's eastern region and its relationship with Mexico City's Metropolitan zone. For the better understanding of this process, the author considers the analysis of soil exploitation, the population growth and the presence of public services. An additional element to be considered is the importance of the State of Mexico,

which its eastern area frequently collides with the pressures coming from Mexico City, thus providing a complicate scenario to solve the several problems existing in the region such as territorial planning, urban development, the use of infrastructure, the control of environment as well as property rights.

Policies against Public Insecurity in Mexico's Federal District, 1997-2002

Alejandro Favela Gavia, Miriam Calvillo y Pablo Martínez

The article discusses the problems that public insecurity have brought to the capital of Mexico in the past five years. By doing an analytical description of crime evolution since the early 90's up to the present, the authors discuss which are some of the main factors which have provoked the rise of insecurity. The analysis is focused at the types of crime as well as at knowing what is the current perceptions of people about this problem.

In addition, the article develops an overview of the policies directed by the local governments to decrease crime in the city, especially from 1997 up to date, with especial attention to the role played by the citizen.

Social Psychology and Human Rights

Regina Hélena de Freitas Campos

The importance of this paper is grounded on the efforts made by contemporary social psychology towards amplifying its areas of knowledge and intervention. In this sense, the article does express the concern for developing wider levels of explanation. This is important because the problematic of human rights needs to surpass the theoretical limitations currently imposed by the rigid division of social sciences.

Power, Gender and Social Psychology

Héctor Meza Aguilar

Since power relationships are correlated to those of gender, this work retrieves the foucaultian conception of power to attain a better understanding of both types of power relationships. It indicates the compatibility and complementation between foucaultian and marxist views which converge in the fact that the operation of power needs ideological mechanisms. The paper revises the two main conceptions

of ideology and the reasons of why the social and political psychology have been refractive to this concept as well as reductive about the idea of power. The concepts of social differentiation, identity and role are in here retrieved as indispensable to the study of gender's ideology. For the surpassing of this ideology, this work proposes to recover the findings made by Foucault in his investigations on the history of sexuality.

NGO's Geostatistics in Contemporary Mexico

Clara Inés Charry S.

This paper is a result of the data collection and interpretation of the 2000 National Survey on Civil Organizations in Mexico, jointly sponsored by the Institute for Social Development (INDESOL), the Metropolitan Autonomous University (UAM), and the FAM. The processing of data was undertaken by UAM during 2001. In accordance to the conveyed program, a database was deposited at the university and another one was preserved by the institute, which became the core of its National Information System on Civil Organizations (SIOCS)

Rebuilding Citizenship, the Community and the Nation

Armando Rendón Corona

This article studies the historical principles which have sustained the idea of democracy in Latin America. In addition to this general purpose, the author also proposes to discuss three facts which are at the core of latin american democracies, namely: the role of citizenship and the community within the frame of the national condition. By analyzing these three elements aforementioned, the author consider that the processes of fragmentation and of social deconstruction produced by the neoliberal order could be contested.

Human Rights' Representation and Social Knowledge. An Approach to its Problematic at the Communitarian Level

José Joel Vázquez Ortega

Before the redesigned reality of the world presented by globalization, in this essay the author tries to analyse its consequences for the construction of social

imaginaries and representations. Its focus is placed at knowing how society thinks and how it thinks about itself in current times. Then, the study is centered at the analysis of the emergence, comprehension, intervention, and transformation of social representation of human rights, as well as its weight in the level of intervention. The paper rescues the results of the research project called *Psychosocial Research and Communitarian Intervention for Human Rights*.