

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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

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RC06-76.3

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To be a Father and/or an Inmate, That Is the Question, but What Is the Answer?

The aim of this paper is to explore international practices and policies related to incarcerated fathers to revisit policies in South Africa. According to the 12th edition of the World Prison Population List, the total inmate population in South Africa is approximately 158 111 (97% male) which is about 280 prisoners per 100 000 population (compared to the estimated global rate of 150 per 100 000 population). In aiming to rehabilitate inmates, links with family ties are increasingly investigated, especially in countries from the Global North, since continuous links with family members are found to counter male recidivism. However, South Africa is characterised by high levels of violence against women and children and gang-related criminality, therefore it is not necessarily in the best interest of families to have continuous ties with fathers. In addition, certain fathers may have lost contact with children long before being incarcerated since 64 per cent of all children do not live with their biological fathers in South Africa. Non-residential fatherhood is one of the main factors contributing to household fluidity in South Africa. The reasons for non-resident biological fatherhood include the death of the biological father, entrenched migrant patterns, a precarious economic environment, shifting mother-father relationships, undisclosed paternity and men who abscond paternal responsibilities. Although various studies focused on these different elements, paternal absence due to incarceration received comparatively little attention in South Africa despite a growing body of literature on incarcerated mothers. A qualitative study revealed that children of incarcerated men belonging to gangs may be harmed by rival gangs. Not surprisingly, certain preliminary work aiming to strengthen fatherhood skills of incarcerated men in South Africa focused on inmates who already demonstrated attributes of rehabilitation.

RC53-649.1

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Local Childhoods of the South: A Mere "Case" or the Epistemic Position in the Production of Knowledge about Children?

It is often assumed that the diversity of childhoods - in their complexity and variability - must be taken into account in theorization in order that different child realities can be discursively constituted by available concepts and theories. In this paper the notion of 'local childhoods' is discussed against the backdrop of the notion of the global child whose perspective tends to normatize variability and inscribe it into a localized/peripheral geographical condition. It is argued that exemplary local childhoods represent those seemingly insurgent cases which defy hegemonic theories and whose locality is worth specifying. In this vein, Southern childhoods have been frequently referred to as traditional, non-modern or inadequate in their ways of being and living securing thus the metonymic effect of locality for what needs to be developed and surpassed. It is here argued how the notions of globality and locality of childhood are embedded in a geopolitical perspective foregrounding the global in detriment of the local. Thus, it is discussed in what ways the locality of childhood - especially that of Southern countries - can engender processes of 'local knowledge' in order to better respond to local demands and issues about childhood rather than standing as a mere case to validate universalized theories. It is further discussed how 'local knowledge' can forward a critique of a globalized view of childhood which represents a local universalism with a globalized intent. Two exemplary local childhoods of insurgent value will be shortly presented to illustrate the argument: that of the children of the Movimento dos Sem Terra in Brazil (Landless Rural Movement) and that of Youtubers' children.

RC34-428.5

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RURAL Territory in Movement: Youth, Gender and Family Agriculture in the Semiarid Region of Northeast Brazil

The migration of small farmers from the semi-arid Northeast to the urban area is a recurring phenomenon in Brazil and aggravated by prolonged periods of drought and in families with socioeconomic vulnerabilities. Even with the advance of proactive public policies aimed at improving small farmers, such as improving the accessibility of water resources, fragilities persist. For silently and continuously, the migration of the sons and daughters of family farmers has revealed new challenges, especially when led by women. This article aims to analyse the factors that contribute to the mobility process of young people, sons and daughters of family farmers, according to gender issues. The research used the method of the Participatory Rapid Diagnosis and the construction of indicators to understand the repulsion factors that exist in the socioeconomic unit of small farmers and in the territory, at communities in the semi-arid region of Ceará State. Through the application of a semi-structured questionnaire on 214 young people enrolled in a high school in rural area of Quixeramobim municipality in the state of Ceará, Brazil, it was found that migration is desired by 80.43% of young women and 73.77% of young men. The factors of repulsion, in small farmers, are differentiated according to gender. This reveals gender inequalities, the invisibility of women's reproductive work, their absence from decision-making to property management, and many times they are denied the right to inherit land. Family farming brings in itself importance of agricultural production, but it also reveals social reproduction with the complexity of power relations between family members, who are not only labour force but also relatives.

RC17-209.2

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Organizations, Inter-Organizational Relations and Societal Changes

A variety of societal changes is currently affecting organizations. To understand their response patterns, however, it is not enough to look at organizations in an isolated manner.

The most prominent approaches for conceptualizing inter-organizational relations as networks are presented. Nevertheless, the analysis of these network forms no longer seems to suffice. As a consequence, new terms are emerging, two of which are particularly promising: 'Meta-organization' and '(platform-based) ecosystem'.

The derived distinctions are reconciled with the systems theoretical vocabulary proposed by Luhmann. I follow the debate between Ahrne et al. and Apelt et al., but take a third position. Both agree on the premise that decided order is the one sufficient criterion for the definition of organization. However, this criterion underestimates the concept of *decision process*. It is uncertainty absorption which is the condition of possibility for organizations and their taking decisions based on absent decisions. 'Absence' is therefore a second necessary condition for 'organization'. In this sense Apelt et al. rightly criticize Ahrne et al. for trivializing the concept of society. But: They themselves trivialize the social realm by ignoring the difference present / absent, therefore suppressing the two system levels based on presence: Interaction and social movement. If these additional system levels are considered, Ahrne/Brunsson and Luhmann can be correlated in the following way:

	Decided Order	Non-Decided Order
Absence	(I) Organization Meta-Organization	(II) Society / Institution Org-Network / Ecosystem
Presence	(III) Social Movement Partial Organization	(IV) Interaction Personal Network

This distinction emphasizes the significance of the internal differentiation of order based on absence. Paradoxically, inter-organizational relations have a two-fold effect on society: They claim and bring about planned social change (I+III) and at the same time contribute not least to today's grand challenges (II) - *without the possibility to be made responsible for them*.