La Guerre et les Images

Henri-Pierre JEUDY

RÉSUMÉ

Les Américains produisent une rhétorique de la guerre, par le discours et par le traitement des images. Les scenarii se déroulent comme prévu, et leur représentation télévisuelle conforte le rythme de leur enchaînement. Avec les media américains, la réalité événementielle de la guerre devient un spectacle bien construit. En répondant à la terreur par la terreur, ce qui est mis en place à l’échelle planétaire par les Américains, c’est la stratégie d’une “terreur préventive”. Ce “terrorisme de la pacification”, dont la durée est infinie, ne peut fonctionner que de manière permanente, comme une constante de la domination universelle réalisée par la seule puissance mondiale des États-Unis.
La maladie du lien social est la "condition d'être" du sociologue. Le social est pris dans des procédures de la réflexivité sociologique qui lui donnent le sens de sa destinée, de son évolution possible. Il est assimilé à cette "réalité sociale" que les sociologues étudient en la construisant, en la façonnant afin que les manifestations "vitales" du social soient toujours des symptômes de ce qui ne va pas dans un "corps social". Pourtant, le corps nous délivre des stéréotypes du langage. Les sentiments et les émotions qu'il manifeste présentent la naissance énigmatique du sens au moment même où l'octroi de leur signification se plie aux conventions de l'interprétation.
Applying Facet Theory to Studies of Japanese Society: Verification of laws of human behavior

Kazufumi MANABE

ABSTRACT

This Paper is an attempt to summarize and develop Facet Theory and related data analysis methodology. Needless to say, however, theories and methodologies cannot exist if they are isolated from reality. Rather, we can say that it is deep, keen insight that makes it possible to develop effective theories and methodologies. Researchers of Facet Theory are no exception in that they have to start with the confirmation of each theory and methodology. Now, what “reality” implies for me here is Japanese society that provides the backdrop to my own life.

In this paper I attempt to review Facet Theory, then I organize the findings of my empirical research by applying the Facet Theory to various aspects of Japanese society.

Those findings are classified as follows:

1. The Laws of Polytone Regression: The principal components, namely intensity, closure, and involvement have pollytone relations to the attitude.
   An example: A Study of Foreign Students’ Attitudes toward Japan(1983)

2. The First Law (Monotonicity: the “sign” of correlation): If any two items are selected from the universe of attitude (closure, involvement , norm, intelligence) items, and if the population observed is not selected artificially, then the population regressions between those two items will be monotone and with positive or zero sign.
   An example: Political Involvement and Political Information(1983)

3. The second Laws (Monotonicity: the “size” of correlation): Theories of size of correlation that have proved to be successful are of a variety that is called regional. Each facet of the domain of the variables corresponds to a partitioning of the SSA space into as many regions as there are elements to the facet. Three major kinds of partitions are: axial, polar and modular.
   1) An example of AXIAL: Political Involvement and Political Information (1983)
   2) An example of MODULAR: The Structure of Conservative Attitude (1981)

I have developed further the methods I acquired and made them my own, applying them to the analysis of wide range of Japanese social phenomena. This paper is the result of such efforts.

Key Words: The Laws of Polytone Regression, The First Law, The Second Laws
Funeral Rites of the Tujia in China

Katsuhiko YAMAJI

ABSTRACT

The Tujia, one of 55 ethnic minority groups in China, has been considered to be thoroughly assimilated into Han culture. Many researchers point out that the Tujia have lost their own traditional culture as a result of the Sinicization process. Surely, they have converted their religion from traditional or animistic types to Chinese religions such as Taoism or Confucianism.

In almost all villages of the Tujia dwelling area, Taoist priests, daosis, elaborately perform funeral rites reciting sutras for 2 or 3 nights to send the souls of the dead to the afterlife. In some areas where Confucian intellectuals have a great deal of influence, another type of funeral rite is performed by geshis, ceremonial singers. They chant classical types of Chinese poems all through the night walking around a coffin; the contents of these poems are related to the concept of filial piety to parents, as advocated by Confucianism.

However, a quite different type of funeral from the two described above is found in isolated districts surrounded by deep mountains. In those areas, the funeral is called da sang gu, literally beating a drum. When people come together to keep vigil over a dead body, they enjoy singing and dancing, beating a drum all night. They sing not only elegies but also sexually obscene songs. Moreover, they sometimes find delight in performing funny dramas. The reason why they perform funeral rites in this enthusiastic fashion is that they consider that the deceased, who lived more than 60 years, should be blessed by the bereaved because he or she lived to a great age.

Historical documents reveal that former generations of the Tujia had a custom similar to da sang gu in the era of the Sui dynasty. The Tujia have adopted new agricultural techniques and religious beliefs from the Han since the Qing era so that their lifestyle apparently cannot be differentiated from that of the Han. However, they have not completely abandoned their traditional customs like da sang gu even after having converted as Taoists or Confucianists. This complicated situation makes the Tujia culture glorious.
Exploring Factors Affecting Student Satisfaction with Supervision of Social Work Field Practicum

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Shiho KODAMA
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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to explore factors affecting BSW social work students’ overall satisfaction with supervision in their social work field practicum. A total of 151 BSW social work students completed the questionnaire which included 13 questions on the helpfulness of the supervision that they received from their field instructors, the frequency of supervisory sessions, and overall satisfaction with supervision. A categorical principal component analysis with varimax rotation of the 13 items yielded 4 components of supervision domains which were named “guidance of work contents,” “supportive communication,” “guidance of professionalism,” and “guidance of professional rule.” A multiple regression analysis was conducted to examine whether the 4 components, using the factor scores of the 4 components, and “the frequency of supervisory session” explain “overall satisfaction with supervision.” Findings revealed that “guidance of work contents,” “supportive communication,” and “the frequency of supervisory sessions” significantly influenced “overall satisfaction with supervision.” The significance of the findings for supervision of social work field practicum in Japan, as well as the practical implications of the results for better supervision is discussed.

Key Words: social work field practicum, student satisfaction, supervision
Residential Conflicts in Chinese Urban Communities

Min ZHANG
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Abstract

Since the mid-1980s, economic and social administration systems in Chinese urban communities have been greatly reformed. The Chinese government has given more power to society and the community than ever before. Such a transformation has been depicted as a change in the orientation of individuals from “unit-based persons” to “community-based persons”. With the rising reforms of the housing system, most urban houses now belong to the residents in communities as private property, rather than to the government or to the unit as in the past. It is here that a large variety of problems arises among residents’ committees, real estate companies, and emerging committees of home owners. Problems are newly experienced ones, but the whole system for the resolution of conflicts remains unorganized and the correlative regulations are not well-developed yet. The present paper, based on face-to-face interviews with those involved in conflicts as well as other data, attempts to elucidate how efforts are being made to solve those emerging problems.

Key Words: residential conflicts, community, Chinese society
Towards a Clearer Understanding of the Socio-economic, Socio-educational, and Socio-political Role of Higher Education in Japan

Alan BRADY
Kiyoshi ABE
Joe TAKEDA
Brent POOLE

ABSTRACT

It is crucial for university faculty to have a clearer understanding of the role and responsibility of higher education in the wider Japanese society. In Japan it has been argued that higher education institutions compete among each other to convince students how well they can fit them into existing systems of power and privilege. Asking faculty and students a number of sensitive questions about teaching and learning can help us gauge the extent to which espoused and practiced higher education does or does not match. Students need to be more actively involved in developing and managing university courses so that they can be more personally motivated to love learning and inquiry. Students need to better understand and appreciate the social complexities of teaching and researching. Faculty, for their part, need to better understand and appreciate the social complexities of student learning.

Key Words: understanding, role, university
The Situational Perspective for Youth Subcultures: Concerning youth subcultures in postwar Japan

Koji NAMBA

ABSTRACT

In Japanese, the term ‘subculture’ is used in various ways. So, in the beginning of this essay, I define the word as a whole way of life, which is regarded as something unconventional in the society. In addition, I focus on youth subcultures after WW II. During this era, youth culture began to be discussed academically, the term of ‘youth culture’ began to be used generally and many youth subcultures emerged all over the world. To study youth subcultures, first I examine the methodology and terminology of “Frame Analysis” written by Erving Goffman, and next, I try to survey youth subcultures in postwar Japan and apply the terms of Frame Analysis to them. As a result, I arrive at three points concerning changes of Japanese youth subcultures as follows; firstly ‘from co-presence to relationship’, secondly ‘trend toward revival’, lastly ‘decrease in the degree of commitment to the subculture’. Through these changes in youth subcultures, I can see many changes in postwar Japanese society, in particular, concerning class structure, development of media, gaps between generations, deference of gender, and sense of locality. I think these youth subcultures should be studied as the symbolic and extreme cases of media culture and consumer culture after WW II.

Key Words: youth subcultures, Frame Analysis, cultures of consumption

Miyoko MIKE
Satoshi IKENO

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this article is to clarify the philosophical issues in future social work research, those of which should significantly impact on the formulating process of practice models. The concept of "research paradigms", first demonstrated by E. G. Guba and Y. S. Lincoln in 1994, is applied for an analyzing framework. We clearly believe that this framework can expand the philosophical window that enables to shed a light over the endless debate regarding controversial issues in social work research, such as "what is science?" "what is an objective?" and/or "what are the pros and cons in positivistic viewpoints?" The framework also provides crucial implications, such as 1) besides a methodological consideration, social work research needs to be conducted in the light of an ontological as well as an epistemological foundation, and 2) it is the time for social work researchers to accept multiple research paradigms in order to develop useful practice models. In Japanese social work settings, however, those implications have never been discussed. In terms of the critical review methodology, we propose several implications for the advance of social work research that implies a philosophical consistency regarding the ontological, epistemological, and methodological considerations.

Key Words: social work research, research paradigm, ontology, epistemology, methodology
A Training Method for People Who Help Others:
What did the students learn from the training group?

Emi KAWASHIMA

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to present common basic attributes of effective and skilled helpers, and to consider whether “Training group” (T-group) has possibilities as a training method for helpers. Many researchers report that basic attributes of effective helpers are self-consciousness, as well as basic communication skills to create rapport with those they are helping. The contents of two questionnaires were analyzed, one completed right after T-group training for students ended, the other filled out 4 months after the training. The analysis showed that members learned basic communication skills and became more conscious of him/herself. As a result, I conclude that T-group for students has many possibilities as a training method for helpers. However, Other kinds of data gathered from T-group participants need to be studied further for accuracy.

Key words: Training for helpers, college & university students, Training group
Perception of Death Among College Students: Using text mining techniques.

Miwa FUJII

ABSTRACT

High-tech modern society has hidden and rejected natural death. While real death is hidden, death in virtual reality has replaced it, via the mass media. As a result, adolescents and young adults, who are in the era of stable character formation, have difficulties in experiencing real feelings toward death, which bring about their firm perception of death. The purpose of this study is to find the constructs of the perception of death among college students. One hundred and two students were asked to write down their images of death. Using text mining techniques, text data were grouped into eight clusters: ‘spiritual aspect,’ ‘natural end,’ ‘feelings toward death,’ ‘separation from people meaningful to oneself,’ ‘the unknown and loneliness,’ ‘ambiguity,’ and ‘giving up activities.’ The construct ‘feelings toward death’ includes positive and negative feelings toward death itself, mixed feelings toward death, and the negative feelings toward death in relation to others. More studies are needed to determine the perception of death. Considering the perception of death among adolescents and young adults, better death education programs in the educational system should be developed.

Key Words: perception of death, college students, text mining techniques
“Social Program Design and Social Work Practice: Learning from social work education in the U.S.”

Sachiko BAMBA

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this article is to address the importance of social program design and to introduce skills and techniques for designing social programs which the author studied in the United States. In this article, “outcome–based accountability” and “client–centered performance management” are introduced as the bases of social program design. Outcome–based accountability tells us that what is important is not “what is provided by the organization”, but “what the clients received as the outcomes of the services”. The client–centered performance model posits five performance areas: client outcomes, productivity, resource acquisition, efficiency, and job satisfaction. Following the explanation of the performance areas, four principles of client–centered performance management are described as the core of the model. Finally, the fifteen stages of skills and techniques required in program design are discussed. Each stage must be carefully designed and the program must have a logical flow from the problem to the goals, to interventions, service procedures, and helping episode so that all parts of the program fit/work together.

Key Words: Program design, Outcome–based accountability, Client–centered management
Vocational Motives of Students Aspiring to be Social Workers
The influence of values–oriented motives on the motivation to be social worker

Takako SHIMAMOTO

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to examine the vocational motives of students aspiring to be social workers. A new scale of vocational motives was developed including values–oriented motives based on Maslow’s Need Hierarchy theory. The data were gathered from 126 junior year students in the social work department and analyzed with this scale. The responses were examined by factor analysis. Results showed five factors as vocational motives–values-oriented motives, dominance–oriented motives, stability–oriented motives, relationships–oriented motives, and challenge–oriented motives. Furthermore, relationships among vocational motives and the present motivation to become a social worker, as well as among the present motivation and past motivation at entrance, were examined by multiple linear regression analysis. Results showed that the past motivation, dominance–oriented motives, and values–oriented motives influenced the present motivation.

Key Words: scale of vocational motives, value–oriented motives, motivation to be a social worker
Construction of a New Public Sphere in China

The public works case of “The tree moving incident” in Zhejiang Province, Sanmen Prefecture

Xue Mei JIA

ABSTRACT

The tempo of city and farm development in China has quickened, and the construction of public works has developed remarkably fast. China has introduced the market economy system, but a variety of environmental destruction problems has occurred as a result of this rapid development. A new public sphere is becoming accepted in Chinese society to seek some reasonable solutions to the problems caused during the period of continuing social change. This paper argues that the key to progress in constructing and developing a public sphere is the involvement of the mass media, NGO and villager committees, which are unique to China. To illustrate such a public sphere, the paper introduces the case study of a community action, “opposition to cutting down an old tree.”

Key Words: public sphere, NGO, villager committee
Present-day Issues of Community Practice:
Current models of social action

Dan KAYAMA

ABSTRACT

Nowadays the social action model of community practice in social work tends to be considered old-fashioned, because of the tendency that many people recently do not prefer using what used to be the standard methods of conflict and confrontation to assert their rights. However, such kinds of social action are still required in litigant’s activities such as in the cases of Hansen’s disease, HIV, and so on. This study attempts to make a presentation of a hypothetical model of current forms of social action. This model is tested using four cases. They are activities: (case 1) against pollution; (case 2) to change the government’s principle on a new law providing services for disabled people; (case 3) for education and enlightenment about the environment; (case 4) to stop the closure of a nursing school for children with disabilities. Cases 1 and 2 were carried into practice according to the conventional method of social action, so in this meaning these two were similar. However, a difference was seen in that case 1 was for people in a specific geographic area, while case 2 was not. On the other hand, cases 3 and 4 had similar characteristics because they were quite different from the conventional social action; they were carried out with moderation after a term of confrontation. Although case 3 was for a generic area, case 4 was for a specific location. A framework for analysis of social action was derived through this argument: axes of confrontation-cooperation (the basic structure of relationships between the people concerned and their target), and specific-generic (the geographic area for intervention). Possibly this framework can be used by social workers to choose the appropriate social action method.

Key Words: community practice; social action; support payment system for people with disabilities
A Note on Class Cultures

Koji NAMBA

ABSTRACT

In British society, class culture still has not lost its significance, whereas matters of gender, ethnicity and generation are becoming relatively more important. In particular, working class culture has maintained its vitality and many people are proud of their sense of belonging to the culture, though heavy or mining industries have declined. In this note, I survey recent studies concerning working class culture and derive three points as follows. Firstly, now class is not only an issue of production but also one of consumption or taste. As a result, many people construct themselves at will as members of the working class, though in some cases they are white collar workers or students. Although some manual workers earn more money than office workers or teachers, they recognize themselves as working class. Secondly, the representations of working class cultures in films or TV dramas revitalize and reconstruct them. Lastly, now the barrier of gender becomes lower, even in working class culture, so lasses or ‘laddette’ culture has emerged as the counterpart of lads culture, which means masculine working-class men’s culture. In conclusion, whereas the aspect of ‘class in itself’ is decreasing now, the aspect of ‘class for itself’ is increasing. So, in British society class cultures will be alive for a while.

Key Words: class cultures, Cultural Studies, youth subcultures
Retrieving Information from Data Archives

Yasuto NAKANO

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to review methods to retrieve information from social research data archives. The intended readership is researchers interested in secondary analysis of social research data and beginners in data archive utilization. First of all, the aims of using data archives are confirmed. That is to say, the aims are secondary analysis, meta-analysis, supplementary verification, descriptive analysis, and questionnaire references. To achieve these aims, the process needs to be taken in five steps: (1) defining a research purpose, (2) selecting an adequate data archive, (3) retrieving information from the data archive, (4) obtaining appropriate data, and (5) analyzing the data. Then we take examples of step (3) and (4) in some data archives. In addition, some useful URLs are listed.

Key Words: data archives, retrieving, secondary analysis