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Risks and Opportunities of Individual Growth in Postmodern Society

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Abstract

The present volume brings together a number of original researches, of good academic value, aimed at analyzing the impact of postmodern society on current human inner growth. These approaches so very different in their areas of coverage - from Figure of Kidult (Bernardini, 2014) and the influence of technology on individual welfare (Choudhury & Barman, 2014) to the impact of consumption theory on the postmodern consumer (Bonagina, 2014) and the relationship between visual feminisms - postmodernism (Manolache, 2014) – could be well suited to the meditations of Seneca (Epistolae 33.11), according to which "the truth is accessible to everyone; it is not fully taken. A lot has remained from it, even for those who come from now on." The volume includes also some new perspectives on building a new ethical expertise model, trying to define the supervision of ethics (Caras, 2014) and a review of the various approaches to the concept of ethnic community, starting from the classical ones and ending with the postmodern ones (Fedor, 2014).

Keywords:

Postmodern Society, Figure of Kidult, individual welfare, consumption theory, visual feminisms, supervision of ethics, ethnic community

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In an attempt to take their share of the truth, because many subjects have remained untold / unsolved, the researchers in this volume propose new perspectives on the impact of postmodernity on contemporary individuals and communities. Originality, without knowing the great culture, without the recourse to the wisdom of ancestors, is imposture. Or, the researchers to whom we refer, argue and convince of the originality of their analyses through dedication and rigor, by opening themselves to the genuine values, to the rational foundation through culture and through knowledge on the aspects approached. This clarification is important to understand the positions expressed in such a controversial and polemic area, as the area involving any theoretical discourse on postmodernism.

In a scientific communication of real interest, Jacopo Bernardini (2014) warns on the development of a culture of infantility, in the presence of models free of didactic, educational and emotional content, promoted by the consumerist society. The clash between trans-generationally promoted patterns and the co-generational ones produces in contemporaneity readjustments in development stages and confusion of roles, as the author states. Consequently, the author insists in his analysis on the relation between maturity - growing up, family, social, political responsibility – irresponsibility, etc., and on the effects of media culture on the psycho-emotional development, on the risks of moral regression in defining the contemporary adult.

The study performed by Satabdi Rai Choudhury and Arup Barman (2014) highlights opportunities and risks of individual welfare and personal growth, on the background of excessive technologization specific to postmodernity. From making work instruments more effective to social isolation problems, both the advantages of technological influx concerning the increase in the comfort and quality of life, and the disadvantages of individual privacy loss and escalation of the intergenerational conflict, or involvement in a virtual world to the expense of socializing in the real world are analyzed.

The volume includes as well a compelling picture on the pressures to which the postmodern consumer is subjected, in the paper elaborated by Bouagina Jaziri (2014) and focused on highlighting distinct conditions and characteristics of the postmodern consumer compared to the modernist consumer – merchandise / of consumption,

differentiation that has not yet been significantly approached by the consumption theory.

Viorella Manolache (2014) presents in this volume a new and interesting reinterpretation of the concepts subject-object, ideology, dedoxification, from the perspective of the relation between postmodernism – representation - feminism. This relationship allows the author to critically examine known explanatory paradigms, in order to recite ethical, social and political representations from the conceptual perspective of biopolitical theory.

Cătălin Fedor within his paper *Towards a Postmodern Approach of Ethnic Community* (2014) approaches a review of the various approaches to the concept of ethnic community, starting from the classical ones and ending with the postmodern ones. The author emphasises the constructivist and constructionist approaches and the conclusions are pointing out that an individual's belonging to an ethnic group is an ever-changing social construct.

Paper *Perspectives for Reconstruction of Ethical Expertise* of Ana Caras (Frunză) exposes the meanings of ethics audit in social services and the need to implement an ethics audit process in organizations which offer social services, in order to achieve the transition to a new model of ethical expertise - supervision of ethics (Caras, 2014).

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