

Editor in Chief:
Josip Janković

Editorial

Once again this journal appears late in front of the scientific and professional public. This time the reason is not the unpleasant Covid 19 but a new form of immorality in our scientific circles in the context of publishing scientific articles in journals. At least I haven't encountered anything similar so far! Until now, I have known some forms of immorality connected to journals, such as hiring a powerful editor-in-chief to start and run a new journal, and when he completes all the preparations, he is suddenly rejected and all communication with him is cut off, or he is allowed to make the first number and then the possibility of further actions is terminated and someone from the corresponding clan takes over the editing. It is also known that there are selections of articles where they are accepted or rejected for publication according to the criteria of belonging to a certain clan in general or when the clan or the leadership-oriented editor-in-chief himself, an unfailingly respected scientist with a high status in terms of his scientific teaching profession, wants to prevent the advancement of a colleague on the scale of scientific titles and „retire” him earlier. Categorization of articles according to the level of scientificity has also already been seen in the same function and circumstances.

I had the opportunity to „investigate” all these forms of „scientific crime”, I won't hide it, using the method of my own skin, that is, observation with participation. However, this time the immorality came from the potential author of the paper who wanted to publish this „same” paper in our magazine. Thus, the number of cases I investigated using the aforementioned method characteristic of sociological research was completed. Up to now, in four cases, there were older and younger female colleagues in terms of age and scientific title (the ones older by scientific terms were younger by age and the ones older by age were

younger in terms of scientific title, while the most recent case was with a younger colleague according to both criteria). In two cases, they were male colleagues (one older in both - age and title, and the other younger by both criteria, but in a higher position in the department's administrative structure). One of them had, in addition to a scientific, also a priestly title. In terms of immoral actions during this "research" there were several rejections of articles that were then accepted and published without changes in more reputable journals than the incriminated ones, one article was categorized lower than proscribed by the criteria for categorizing scientific papers. There were three cases of sabotage of editing the magazine that I founded either together with others as a member of the founding group or completely independently. Of these three journals, the last attempt to disable me failed (in the first two cases, I gathered enough experience to be able to become aware of the fact that even in the scientific community there are colleagues prone to immoral or even criminal activities in order to prevent the advancement of others and speed up their own, so I prevented that attempt myself) and here I am still editing it.

It is not easy to determine exactly what was the main cause of such actions of mostly successful colleagues. There were several factors, among which one can single out those of a completely personal nature, such as hurt narcissism, completely down-to-earth, erotic, need to show "muscles", one's own success in relation to other members of the academic community, changed personality, outflanking to other leaders in order to maintain one's position and achieve a higher rank in a scientific teaching profession or status in a wider higher education organization. There are certainly factors related to the participating observer, from the "old-fashioned understanding" of morality or, more precisely formulated, reasons given by elementary ethics and a resistant belief in it regardless of events, and lack of interest in narcissistic „powerful" persons of the opposite sex to too easy acceptance victim roles and self-sabotage caused by early traumatic experiences. Certainly, a more intensive analysis of such phenomena in the academic community would require more research and more space, but these examples are also very symptomatic and it is hard to believe that they are alone. But the case related to this issue of the magazine is different from the usual ones presented above.

The Social Themes magazine was launched in Mostar, a new environment for the education of social workers. Its purpose was to create a new scientific community and its elite. Therefore, its policy is to accept the publication of articles prepared by young scientists with the cooperation and help of their mentors or the help of one of the qualified members of the editorial board of the journal Social Themes. This time an already „mature scientist“ Jelena Seferović Ph.D. from the Institute of Anthropology requested a meeting with me regarding her research and the possibility of my help with it. I gladly accepted and during that optimistic and collaborative meeting, I accepted to publish her article based on very interesting data, of course after double blind reviews. The deadline for creating the article was very favorable, but even after that, the paper was never written for various reasons. Then, on several occasions, part by part, started coming very raw versions, linguistically unacceptable written began to arrive, which I preliminarily proofread each time, and each time my colleague wrote her revisions on her basic, instead of proofread, text. But I understood that she was a beginner, although she already had a doctorate in science, so I continued helping. These refinements, additions, adaptations of the article to the basic linguistic and scientific rules of writing scientific papers lasted for months! The journal was already supposed to go to press, but it was waiting for this paper, which was supposedly important to be published in that issue and in the year 2022. When the text reached some possible level of the preliminary communication, I sent it to the reviewers. The reviews were not favorable. Numerous supplements and additional refinements were requested, among them also regarding the data itself and its interpretation. The data seemed extremely important to the reviewers, first historically, but also in the context of the article (the author collected data in the archives about the lives of children in the Children's Home in Nazorova Street in Zagreb, which showed, among other things, that the atmosphere and attitude towards children was of better quality in the 1940-ies than in the year of 1957). The author accepted the need for further refinement of the article, but not the analysis of this interesting fact, which she ignored, not even wanting to state it, if not to carry out a possible scientific analysis of the causes of such data on the attitude towards children at two points in time. Time passed, and the journal was waiting. When the majority of the reviewers' demands were finally met, the author informed me by email that she was ending all cooperation and communication with me and the journal, and that she had

sent the work to another „foreign“ journal for publication! That wasn't right at all, because we actually wrote the article together (even though I didn't ask for co-authorship), and not just reviewed it, which she accepted until the article met the minimum requirements for publication! I further informed her of the fact that she is violating the ethical rules of the academic community of which she is now a part, and that in the world such actions are not only called by their right name but also appropriately sanctioned, and that after all our work and waiting for the journal to be published, I expect the final version so that the journal could finally go to press. And what happened? This doctor of science reported me to the police for online harassment (for all that free, enthusiastic help for months), and delegated her father to call me the same night, threatening me very seriously and arrogantly, so that in mortal fear of Montenegrin blood revenge, I could hardly wait for the morning to request protection from the Police. This shows that, in this, academic field of human activity, vertical abuse occurs in both directions. I don't know if any of the editors have experienced such abuse from the author, especially the female ones, of a potential article, but it is not pleasant at all. Also, the journal is somewhat thinner than usual (other higher quality papers we received were left for the next issue and the review process was not carried out yet) and it is published very late.

Excluding this paper, which will be remembered as an example of violation of ethical rules in scientific work in our academic community, articles from very diverse but interesting fields were published in the journal, and some are even truly pioneering. The first article „Examination of Some Predictors of One's Physical Appearance, Life-Satisfaction and Self-Esteem in the Wider Context of Engaging in Fitness Programs“ aims to check the possibility of predicting awareness of one's own physical appearance, satisfaction with life and self-esteem based on certain sets of predictors that are related to engaging in physical activities. Such research is becoming more and more relevant in the context of the contemporary sedentary lifestyle on one hand and widespread dissatisfaction with oneself and the life of the world's population, especially its urban part. The study is interesting, especially since in recent years the level of „happiness“ has been researched very widely and the results of the researches are publicly presented in the form of the World Happiness Report for the entire world. Certainly, in this context, the state of health of our population is even

more important, definition of *high*, according to the WHO, includes personal happiness, because it affects all areas of work and life of the population. The obtained results show a significant connection between engaging in physical activities and important predictors of happiness such as self-esteem, awareness of one's own body and satisfaction with life. Thus, the results of this research become extremely instructive for all populations, because they direct activities that aim to raise the level of health at the state level and can have a motivational effect in that direction if they are usefully used.

The following article „Theoretical Models of Understanding the Outcome of Adverse Childhood Experience” deals with the analysis of the main directions in the reflection and interpretation of the construct „adverse experiences in childhood”. These experiences are considered primarily under the comprehensive theoretical and methodological perspective of developmental psychopathology, attachment theory, as well as neurobiological and psychosocial processes that influence health outcomes, including fundamental conceptual approaches modeled „ecologically-transactionally” previously known as stress processes, life course, generative mechanisms, developmental cascades, or pathway models that provide a framework for integrating neurodevelopmental theories and the cumulative effects of risk factors on individual well-being. Such an integrated perspective comprehensively considers the effects of stressful and/or traumatic adverse experiences in childhood as a complex interrelationship of biological, psychological and social mechanisms that affect children's health and illness, including mental health status in adulthood. In the last few decades, great discoveries have been made in the field of neuroscience related to the structure and organic processes of the CNS (new knowledge about the function of glial cells, drastic changes in the number of cortical neurons during adolescence, and others) that shed new light on neurobiological processes, especially the role of the stress response system through the hypothalamus - pituitary gland - adrenal gland (HPA) axis. Likewise, knowledge regarding genetic and epigenetic factors, which are increasingly examined in populations at high risk of adverse childhood experiences in order to better understand their developmental course taking into account variability and transactional challenges, are important, even necessary, for understanding normative and atypical developmental outcomes. Considered in such a broad way, this area provides not only better opportunities

for the professions to understand and adequately respond to challenges in practice, but also for scientists in the study of the fundamental factors of the process in the context of psychosocial problems and phenomena.

The article „Contemporary approaches in the methodology of social sciences: Chaos and complexity theory” follows. In a work whose origins are the main propositions of the complex field of Chaos and Complexity Theory knowledge of contemporary science, the author confronts two meta-theoretical conceptions (genres) in the sense of analyzing their philosophical origins, which relate to the postmodern era and the theory of chaos and complexity. First, the postmodern epoch in the „Postmodern condition” (Lyotard) and Foucault’s poststructuralism (Archaeology of Knowledge) are considered, and then we move on to the philosophical thematization of chaos and complexity of Bhaskar’s „critical naturalism”. Based on the aforementioned confrontation, the author establishes the similarities and differences of these two scientific “categories” that have paradigmatic pretensions. Starting from the statement that postmodern thinking and chaos/complexity theory represent two recent metatheoretical conceptions and significant cultural-scientific facts, the author tries to answer the question of whether their apparent coincidence has a deeper meaning and what it means for the social sciences. Therefore, the basic terms are first defined, with particular emphasis being placed on the fact that postmodern thinking arose from cultural turmoil, and chaos theory from natural scientific assumptions. Of course, both perspectives develop their own distinctive research methods, the first of which focuses on qualitative methods, while the second predominantly relies on sophisticated quantitative methods and procedures. Then, their relationship to „classical science” based on positivist and neo-positivist approaches is critically analyzed. It also points out the need to make an epistemological turn that brings into focus new „paradigms” and „perspectives” of great importance for social research. This work, as well as the book from which it derives, is particularly significant for the field of social activity science, which is still developing its methodological corpus because it was created and for too long, especially in our country, remained only in the field of social activity. The possibility of its development as a science was opened only after the independence of the Republic of Croatia, since, although the first school for social work and university-level studies were started here, political sabotage

prevented recognition of the status of a science, without which it would not have been possible to even develop it, since its pyramid remained a stub - without the possibility of post-graduate scientific and doctoral studies.

The following is the article "Value Characteristics of the Đakovo Dialect in the Mid-Twentieth Century in Comparison with that of Split" dedicated to completely new aspects of research and action in the field of psychosocial work. The paper enters the field of linguistics, especially sociolinguistics, and its goal is to investigate the differences in the value characteristics of the semantics of words used in two completely different environments, Pannonian and Mediterranean, and within each of them. The results undoubtedly show a statistically significant difference between the number of negatively connoted words (nouns, verbs and adjectives) within the two dialects and between them. The Đakovo dialect contains statistically significantly more negatively than positively connoted words, while in Split dialect this difference is not statistically significant. A significant difference was also found in the number of negatively connoted words, with the fact that there are fewer of them in Split than in Đakovo dialect. This distribution of negatively connoted words opens up a series of questions regarding the development of the personality of children in these environments and points to the need for a thorough investigation of them. The first is definitely the connection between mentality and speech. Furthermore, it is necessary to examine the situation with regard to the basic life attitude of the members of the two populations, their conditioning by the corresponding mentality and, in this connection, the life outcomes of children and young people from these environments. Likewise, it is important to determine how characteristic features of a particular speech affect the creation of a certain mentality and/or vice versa. This could establish a completely new course of action at the level of the population in educational and socialization programs appropriate to the psychosocial and speech characteristics and the resulting needs of action, and consequently action on the outcome levels in terms of academic achievements and quality of life of the respective populations. With this research and the perspectives opened by its results, a completely new, very subtle field is opened in psychosocial work and the sciences that are encountered in it.

As can be seen from these brief presentations, the articles in this issue once again bring many different, very important questions, but also a series of answers to a very complex psychosocial area, and give directions to numerous interesting and completely new researches as well as methodological concepts for their implementation.

In the book and conference section of this issue of the magazine, there is a review of Aleksandar Halmi's new book: „Contemporary Approaches in the Methodology of Social Sciences: Chaos and Complexity Theory: New Methodological Genres” published by the publishing house Novi redak, Zagreb.

A new book by Josip Janković titled: „In the footsteps of Socrates to incompetent parents - Street corner work with families” published by Etcetera d.o.o., Zagreb, was also presented. Its publication was encouraged and financially supported by the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia.

The description of the meeting held on the occasion of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the education of social workers in the Republic of Croatia was written by Gordana Berc, head of the Social Work Study Center of the Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb.