Review

Contemporary Issues in Education and Social Communication.

Challenges for Education, Social Work and Organizational Communication

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This interdisciplinary collection of articles written by scholars from different academic backgrounds examines various issues that prevail nowadays in education and social communication, such as the Bologna process, the ethical dimensions of education, the role of the information technology and social media in education, case management in social work, the organizational discourse of non-governmental organizations and the postmodern discourse of political parties.

The first part of the book – "New challenges for education" – is structured on seven chapters. Whereas the first chapter deals with a critical analysis of several types of new education within the context of the contemporary world, the second chapter focuses on the implications that the ethical dimension brings within the issue of didactic professionalism. Another contemporary issue tackled upon in this book is education for children with special needs (Chapter 3). After presenting the advantages and

disadvantages of an inclusive school, the author provides a diachronic approach on the integration process of persons with deficiencies or with learning disorders in Romania. The fourth chapter deals with a critical analysis of the requirements of the Bologna process. The authors provide an interesting insight into power point as an efficient means for educational software creation for the benefit of social and humanistic studies teachers. The last three chapters in this section deal with some theoretical ideas and practical samples regarding the IT&C technologies used in education, with a special emphasis on the new Web 2.0 services that are known as social media. Whereas Chapter 5 and 6 focus on the role of information technology in second language acquisition and on issues of constructivism, connectionism, and emergentism in SLA, Chapter 7 brings forth the challenging issue of social media within the educational environment. After presenting a comparison on the conservative and open approaches in education, the authors provide an analysis of social media as a vector of change and innovation in education, the three social actors whose roles have changed being: student 2.0, teacher 2.0, and university 2.0.

The second part of the book – "Social Communication and Social Work Today" – emphasizes some interesting problems in social work and in organizational and political communication. The first chapter in this section presents the appreciative supervision and case management in social work. Whereas the second chapter deals with the semiotics of the discourse of a Romanian non-governmental organization whose main activity focuses on education of disadvantaged children, the third chapter tries to decide whether the political blog, during online electoral campaigns, is a way to improve the functioning of democracy.

This well-documented book published by the German publishing house (AVM-Akademische Verlagsgemeinschaft München) will be a great asset for the PhD students and researchers in education, social sciences and humanities, and information technology.