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Dear colleagues,

It is my great pleasure to introduce the third issue of the ESA RN16 newsletter. I wish you a joyful read! Many thanks go to all who contributed to its content and especially to the newsletter co-editors Ana Patricia Hilário and Micol Pizzolati who have continued to do a great job of putting together a collection of key facts and information about what is going on in our field of interest.

Among the most important novelties in our research network, the new board took on the responsibilities after the last ESA conference in Torino and this newsletter brings you more detailed introductions of its newly elected members. Besides of those of us who already had the opportunity to work shoulder to shoulder during the last term (Patricia, Kátia, Micol, Anders, Ema), we welcome Helena and Margrethe on board. It is my biggest honour to have the opportunity to work together with you all. Special thanks go to our devoted adviser and the ESA RN16 honorary member Professor Ellen Annandale who has been an invaluable help.

There are several important tasks and exciting events ahead of us during the upcoming term. First of all, we continue developing our close cooperation with the ESHMS and ISA-RC15 under the umbrella of the Global Health Initiative. The next joint conference will be held in Helsinki by the end of August. In addition to the program, the conference will provide space to discuss opportunities of potential collaborations and joint European research projects (funded, e.g., within the Horizon 2020). It will be an exciting occasion to meet and exchange ideas, and therefore we hope for large attendance.

Prior to the conference (on Wednesday, 27th August) the ESA RN16 will also host a one-day workshop ‘Ethics and methodological pitfalls in health research’ for graduate students and young scholars working in the field of health and illness. We believe that this is a unique opportunity to learn and examine delicate aspects of particular research projects. The focus of the workshop reflects our shared belief that discussions and appropriate ways of addressing ethical and methodological dilemmas are essential for dealing with special difficulties of doing research in the field of health and illness; its aim is to assist younger colleagues with the research process. At the same time we hope that the workshop will stimulate more intensive publication activities in this domain.

On behalf of the RN16 board I cordially invite you to participate in these events and look forward meeting you in Helsinki.

And last but not least. This newsletter wouldn’t be possible without you - the RN16 members. We are grateful for any comments and contributions to it. Any suggestions how to improve and enrich our research network are warmly welcome. Please don’t hesitate to communicate them to us.

Ema Hrešanová
RN-16 Chair
Email: ehresano@kss.zcu.cz
Dear colleagues,

We are very pleased to present the Third Issue of the Newsletter of the ESA Research Network on Sociology of Health and Illness.

In this Newsletter you will find a brief presentation of the RN-16 Board, information on the RN-16 PhD Workshop that will be held in Helsinki in August 2014 and on the 15th Biennial Congress of the European Society for Health and Medical Sociology (28-30th August 2014) organised by the ESHMS together with our network and the ISA, RC15.

This newsletter aims to be a tool for future collaboration between researchers working in the field of the Sociology of Health and Illness in Europe. Thus it is for this reason that we have included some information about the current Research Projects and Publications of RN-16 members.

In this issue we also continue to present publications relevant to our field of interest that were published in another EU country. This time it is Italy.

Your collaboration is essential for our newsletter therefore we invite you to share your ideas or suggestions about our future activities. Please feel free to email us at the address below.

We would also like to invite you to renew your membership for RN-16 and ESA, as this is vital for the success of our Research Network, namely in the planning of future events and activities.

Enjoy the reading!

All the best,

Ana Patrícia Hilário& Micol Pizzolati

RN-16 Newsletter Co-Editors

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Kátia Lurbe i Puerto is research fellow at the Assistance Publique – Hôpitaux de Paris (AP-HP, the public hospital system of the Parisian Region). She is member of the Research team “Education and Health” of the French Institute of Education at the Ecole Normal de Lyon, France. She studied at the University Autonomous of Barcelona (UAB, BSc Sociology, PhD), University of Warwick (MA) and the Advanced School for Social Studies (EHESS-Paris, PhD). She has worked previously at the UAB, University of La Corunha, University of Luxembourg and the EHESS-Paris. Kátia has worked on sociocultural diversity in mental healthcare and, the experience of chronic illness (Diabetes, Stroke) and its medical treatment and care. After her last research entitled Prevention and Healthcare among Roma migrants living in the Parisian Region (2008-2011), she has become more and more interested in obesity and the pragmatics of its treatment, and in Public health policies and educational intervention as regards food and eating (in particular, the translation of the medical knowledge in the political arena and the use of education as generator of change in individual’s health behaviour and environment). Her most recent book publication is: Endoétrangers: Exclusion, reconnaissance et expérience des Rroms et gens du voyage en Europe (Academia-L’Harmattan, edited with Frédéric Le Marcis, 2012) :


She has recently been awarded with a 2013 Research Prize of the Institute Benjamin Delessert for the project she is currently working on as principal investigator: “Socioeconomic differences in eating practices after a bariatric surgery: sociological approach by family monographs”.

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Board

Ana Patrícia Hilário (Newsletter Co-ed. & PhD representative)

Ana Patrícia Hilário holds a degree in Sociology and Planning from Lisbon University Institute. She worked as a junior researcher at the Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology, Lisbon University Institute. She is currently taking her PhD in Sociology at Royal Holloway, University of London and is a doctoral fellow at the Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology, Lisbon University Institute. Her main research interests focus on the sociology of health and illness, sociology of the body and sociology of death and dying.

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Anders Petersen (Treasurer)

Anders Petersen holds a PhD and graduated from Örebro University, Sweden in 2007. After that he worked for 8 months in a small Danish municipality, where he was hired to lead a project on “Children and Obesity”. In 2008 Anders got a position as assistant professor of sociology at Aalborg University, Denmark. In 2011 he was promoted to associated professor and in 2012 he was nominated Head of School for the School of Sociology and Social Work at Aalborg University. His research has mostly been on The Social Pathologies of Contemporary Civilization, focussing on depression and stress. Anders’s current research project is called “Diagnostic Culture: The experience, history and social representation of depression and ADHD” – a project co-lead with a colleague, Professor of Psychology, Svend Brinkmann.

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Helena Serra (External relations representative)

Helena Serra is Professor of Sociology at the Institute of Economics and Business Administration – University of Lisbon (ISEG/UL) and President of SOCIUS - Research Center on Economic Sociology and Sociology of Organisations. She has published on healthcare research and organizations and given several keynote presentations at international conferences. She is member of the ESA Executive Committee, member of the ESA RN 19 ‘Sociology of Professions’ and Board Member of the ISA RC 52 ‘Sociology of Professional Groups’. In addition to a book and several book chapters, her journal articles include: Medical Technocracies in Liver Transplantation: drawing boundaries in medical practices, published on Health in 2010.

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Micol Pizzolati holds a PhD in Sociology and Political Systems (2005, Parma). She currently is a non-permanent research associate and lecture in Sociology of Health at University of Molise, Italy (since 2009). Micol worked as research scholar at CNR (2001-2002), as research fellow at University of Bologna (2003-2005) and as post-doc fellow at University of Molise (2007-2008) and at St.George’s University of London (2014). She was visiting researcher at Universidad de Chile (2013). Her research interests focus on these main areas: contraceptive practices; minorities and health. She has been member of various research teams in projects funded both at national (Ministry of Education, University and Research) and international level (Adriatic Cross-border Cooperation Programme, European Integration Fund, Preparatory Action in the Field of Sport) on the issue of social integration processes and politics. Her last book is Micol Pizzolati. *Migration et services de santé en Italie. Le cas du Molise: représentations et pratiques de soins* (L’Harmattan, Paris).

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Margrethe Nielsen holds a PhD in Health and Medical Sciences and graduated in Midwifery. She is a lecturer in Midwifery at Metropolitan University College, Denmark. Previously she was an adviser at the Danish Consumer Council and the Danish Midwifery Association.

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RN-16 PhD Workshop

The European Sociological Association, Research Network on Sociology of Health and Illness (ESA RN-16) in cooperation with the ESHMS and ISA RC15

calls for papers and contributions for the PhD workshop

‘Ethics and methodological pitfalls in health research’

To be held on 27th August 2014 prior to the joint ESA RN16, ESHMS and ISA RC 15 Conference in Helsinki, Finland

Whilst investigating the domain of health and illness in the lives of people and modern societies, medical sociologists have always dealt with various aspects of human suffering. Correspondingly, perhaps more than their colleagues working in other fields, they have been faced with specific ethical and methodological questions related to such conditions. However, the specific nature of these issues is rarely a matter for wider discussions in this sub-discipline.

This PhD workshop addresses the need to discuss ethical and methodological questions particular to the field of sociology of health and illness, with a specific aim of helping social science doctoral students and young researchers working in the field, to find appropriate ways of dealing with ethical and methodological dilemmas in their research. The workshop participants will get an opportunity to engage in discussions about their current research projects with other student colleagues as well as with prominent scholars in the sociology of health and illness who will assist them as mentors.

There will be several working groups focusing on topics such as:

- Researching vulnerable populations
- Dealing with ethical committees and writing about ethical dilemmas in health research
- Writing up on and publishing about sensitive topics
- Methodological pitfalls in investigating sensitive topics
- Ethnography in medical settings: ethical and methodological dilemmas

Eligibility:
Social science PhD students and young researchers working in the field of health and illness are eligible to apply.

The Venue:
The PhD workshop is co-organized with the ESHMS, ISA RC15 and the University of Helsinki, Finland.
How to apply:
A short abstract (250 up to 300 words) together with a brief biography, including the applicant’s institutional affiliation and research interests, should be sent to: <newsletter.rn16esa@gmail.com>, and in copy to <ehresano@kss.zcu.cz>, by the **31st March 2014**. Applicants will be notified about acceptance by the beginning of May. Participants are required to send their full papers (10 to 15 pages) to be distributed to co-participants and mentors by the **1st July 2014**. There will be a publishing opportunity for the best papers.

Costs:
The participants are not required to pay any fees. However, they will be responsible for covering their own travel and accommodation expenses. The ESA RN16 will be able to provide only a limited number of fellowships to PhD students from economically disadvantaged regions in Europe (please indicate your interest in this application).

Important deadlines:
Abstract submission: 31st March 2014
Full paper submission: 1st July 2014

Prospective mentors:
The PhD workshop mentors are established prominent scholars in the field of sociology of health and illness involved in the ESA RN16 and affiliated associations.

Keynote speakers:
- Prof. Ellen Annandale
- Prof. Jonathan Gabe
Europe is facing challenges that will have a huge burden on health of the population and on our welfare systems. Demographic change affects profoundly many aspects of European societies, the consequences of which are emerging in functional ability and quality of life. Economic austerity is reflected both in personal lives of citizens as well as the social, political and cultural determinants of health. On the face of these trends, the 2014 congress of the ESHMS meets to discuss, analyze and compare the social transformations affecting the health and subjective wellbeing of men and women, the young and the old in general and of vulnerable population groups more specifically.

The congress will provide a forum for presentation of sociologically informed research and for discussions regarding the social embeddedness of health and subjective wellbeing. Topics can range from conceptualizing wellbeing or mental health, to exploring related concepts such as burnout. Also the organization of health services; deinstitutionalization and rehabilitation; the stigma of mental illness; health promotion; wellbeing at work, as well as health-related lifestyles fit the scope of the conference. We want also to contribute to theoretical, qualitative and quantitative approaches to sociology of health and medicine as well as the development of comparative research.

In addition to these topics, which are the focus of the 2014 conference, we invite scholars to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations on all health-related sociological and social epidemiological topics of interest. Proposals for sessions are also welcomed.

Contact information

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We look forward to meeting you in the heart of Helsinki!

www.thl.fi/ESHMS2014
# Current research projects and publications of the RN-16 members

## PROJECTS

**Therapeutic consumptions of performance among young people: trajectories and information networks**

**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Noémia Lopes  
**Researchers:** Telmo Clamote, Hélder Raposo, Elsa Pegado, Carla Rodrigues  
**Institutional Affiliation:** CIES-IUL - Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology – University Institute of Lisbon; EGAS MONIZ, High Institute of Health Sciences  
**Funding Institution:** Portuguese Science and Technology Foundation

**Abstract:** Our project focuses on trajectories of consumption for performance purposes among youths in Portugal. We explore them controlling both for different performance goals (body and cognitive), and for the use of different resources (pharmaceuticals and natural products). The key purpose is to assess the specificity of emerging youth therapeutic cultures, regarding performance investments, and how these may blur traditional boundaries between health and illness. For that, we also identify the cultural dispositions of youths vis-à-vis these consumptions, as well as the role information networks - notably the internet and everyday sociability contexts - play there. Our target population is that between 18-29 years old, from which two comparative samples, of national scope, were selected: of university students, and of young workers without university training. A mixed methods approach of data collection was adopted: focus group as exploratory technique [10 sessions; 57 participants]; questionnaire as central technique [n= 1438], and semi-structured interviews as complementary technique [n= 40].


Please send an email to: nlopes@egasmoniz.edu.pt if interested in knowing more on this project.
Biological citizenship: forms of governance and resistance to biomedical knowledge in the Czech Republic

Principal Investigator: Dr. Jaroslava Hasmanová Marhánková & Dr. Kateřina Kolářová
Institutional Affiliation: Department of Gender Studies, School of Humanities, Prague University
Funding Institution: Czech Science Foundation

Abstract: Using the concept of biological citizenship, the project explores health as both a site of disciplination and governance as well as a potential site of agency, activist engagement and resistance to (biomedicalised) power. We propose to analyse the ways in which health, disability and individual ‘biology’ facilitate the emergence of novel forms of collectivities and explore (and complicate) the links between these collectivities, forms of resistant knowledge and political agency. The research design is interdisciplinary (sociology, anthropology, cultural studies, disability studies, queer theory) and combines various qualitative methods (interviews, textual analyses, analyses of cultural practices) to explore the conceptualizations and practices of health in the context of the country’s moral and political landscapes between 1990 and the present. Exploring these issues, we conduct two case-studies focusing on various forms of biological citizenship in the Czech Republic: (1) The first focuses on HIV/AIDS and the ways the politicised/biologised collectivities were enabled or stymied. Furthermore, we explore the experience of living with HIV/AIDS at the intersection of discourses of risk/safety and “chronicity”. (2) The second case study addresses compulsory vaccination, with particular focus on the way vaccination is integrated into one’s own conception of health and illness and the ways in which contentions around the legitimacy of vaccination produce forms of resistance. While scholars have argued that both controversies around immunisation and responses to AIDS/HIV epidemics spearheaded biomedical activism, we argue that these forms of agency and citizenship emerged from specific historical, political and cultural contexts and thus need to be explored and qualified for their articulations and political ramifications in the post-socialist transformations.

Please send an email to: cakaba@seznam.cz and jmarhan@kss.zcu.cz if interested in knowing more on this project.
Facilitating LGBT Medical, Health and Social Care Content in Higher Education Teaching

Principal Investigator: Dr. Zowie Davy  
Institutional Affiliation: University of Lincoln

Abstract: The aim of this research is to: a) assess the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) curricula content in medical, health and social care modules; b) to explore the facilitators and barriers to providing LGBT content in higher education. Understand the thematic educational content. Experiential data from educators teaching on medical, health and social care programs will be gathered. We will uncover the barriers and facilitators of providing students with LGBT curricula content and the issues surrounding the (non)inclusion and teaching of LGBT content. The data will be analysed within a structural and educational policy framework.

Please send an email to: zdavy@lincoln.ac.uk if interested in knowing more on this project.

The impact of cohort size on health and health inequality in the Czech Republic (newly awarded post-doctoral grant for 2014-2016)

Principal Investigator: Dr. Martina Štípková  
Institutional Affiliation: Department of Sociology, University of West Bohemia  
Funding Institution: Czech Science Foundation

Abstract: Current sociological and demographic research of health increasingly acknowledges that society influences health of its members. Especially the role of factors that occur at structural level has been emphasized. However, a possibly important structural factor, the cohort size, has been neglected, so far, despite the fact that consequences of cohort size have been a classical subject of sociological and demographic research. Most of the work in this area has focused on how cohort size influences educational chances, earnings and family formation, but did not pay attention to health. The proposed research aims to fill this gap. It focuses on Czech population which is an interesting research matter because of its history and uneven age structure which provides necessary variation in cohort sizes. The proposed analysis of data from several data sources is intended to find out whether large cohort size is associated with ill health and social inequality in health and to explain causes this relationship (or its absence).

Link: http://www.kss.zcu.cz/vyzkum.php

Please send an email to: marsti@kss.zcu.cz if interested in knowing more on this project.
Improving Mental Health and Well-Being in Black Minority Groups: A Participatory Action Research

Principal Investigator: Dr. Nadia Mantovani
Researchers: Steve Gillard, Micol Pizzolati
Assistant Research: Stephen Joseph
Institutional Affiliation: St. George’s University of London

Abstract: Since the millennium changes have taken place in UK governmental policy that have shaped mental health services, increasing focus on service user participation, empowerment and greater emphasis on a social model of mental health care. The Marmot Review 2010 - ‘Fair Society, Healthy Lives’ - supported a community empowerment approach to public service provision, stating that:

‘Local Strategic Partnerships should engage the third sector in a systematic way to maximise the potential in engaging local communities, tapping into local communities and supporting and fostering individual and collective empowerment and capacity-building to contribute to the development of civic participation’ (p. 160). Advocates of this approach call for creating the conditions where people can take control of their own lives, stating that national policies would not work without effective local delivery systems that empower individuals and local communities (Grady 2010).

In this study we evaluate a community project; the Hope Atrium’s Surviving to Thriving: Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing in African and African Caribbean Communities project. A participatory action approach, using mixed-methods, was adopted to undertake this evaluation. Participatory approaches have been identified as suitable to execute and enable intervention pathways towards addressing disparities in health outcomes involving ethnic minority groups (Savage et al. 2006; Wong et al. 2011).

The aims of the evaluation were:
1) to describe the collection of related, structured activities that comprise the community champions project;
2) to evaluate the intervention in terms of impact on understandings of mental health, illness and wellbeing, and on capacity within Black African and African Caribbean communities – including community structures such as faith-based organisations – to engage with issues of mental health and mental health services.

Please send an email to: nmantova@sgul.ac.uk if interested in knowing more on this project.
ARTICLES & BOOKS CHAPTERS


Pizzolati M. (2013), La propensione alla contraccezione in una ricerca sulle adolescenti molisane, Salute e Società, a. XII, n. 2.

A Look into the Sociology of Health and Illness in Italy

Dear colleagues,

We are very happy to present in this RN-16 Newsletter some of the work published by our colleagues in Italy concerning the field of Health and Illness. We would like to thank all the authors who kindly accept our invitation to present their publications of interest of our Research Network.

We really hope you will enjoy these publications!

Micol Pizzolati & Ana Patrícia Hilário

RN-16 Newsletter Co-Editors
SOCILOGIA E SOCIOLOGIA DELLA SALUTE: ANDATA E RITORNO
SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY OF HEALTH: A ROUND TRIP

EDITED BY: Guido Giarelli, Roberto Vignera
AUTHORS: Mohammad Akram, Masahira Anesaki, Ellen Annandale, Marcel Calvez, Paola Canestrini, Costantino Cipolla, Guido Giarelli, Francesca Guarino, David Hughes, Linda Lombi, Alessia Manca, Antonio Maturo, Matteo Moscatelli, Wlodzimierz Piatkowski, Vololona Rabeharisoa, Elianne Riska, Graham Scambler, Clive Seale, Barbara Sena, Donatella Simon, Zofia Slonska, Debra Umberson, Susanna Vezzadini, Roberto Vignera

PUBLISHED BY: FrancoAngeli, Milan
YEAR OF PUBLICATION: 2013

Summary:
A sub-discipline is a field of specialized study within a broader discipline: is this true even for the relationship between the sociological discipline and the sociology of health? To what extent can we consider the sociology of health just as a sub-discipline of its mother-discipline? It is exactly the problem this book try to tackle by the contribution of a series of scholars at the international level who look at it from the specific observatory of their own country or macro-region – UK, Scandinavia, France, Italy, Poland, India and Japan – and of their different cultural traditions and academic history. Their essays offer some interesting insights on old and new issues, such as the problem of the relationship between theory and practice, the definition of the boundaries of the sociology of health, and the ethnocentric nature of most of its categories, given its origins and roots in the Northern American first and in the European contexts later on.

Why consider it to be relevant?
On the whole, the essays in this book show us that a sub discipline such as sociology of health in dealing with its own topic interacts with other disciplines and their different perspectives, and this cannot leave unchanged its original theoretical approach, challenging its own identity: this is especially true nowadays, when matters of health, illness, healthcare and the body involve a plurality of perspectives to be properly understood, at a time of increased global connectivity which yields shared vulnerability, precariousness of lives, and new risks in the global biopolitics of health.

EDITORS INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION:
Guido Giarelli is Associate Professor of Sociology at the Department of Health Sciences of the University “Magna Græcia” of Catanzaro (Italy)
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**CON GLI OCCHI DEL PAZIENTE. UNA RICERCA NAZIONALE SUI VISSUTI DI CURA DEI MALATI ONCOLOGICI**

**WITH PATIENT EYES. A NATIONAL RESEARCH ON ILLNESS EXPERIENCE IN CANCER PATIENTS**

EDITED BY: Costantino Cipolla, Antonio Maturo  
AUTHORS: Enrico Aitini, Dino Amadori, Barbara Baccarini, Raffaella Cavallo, Gian Luigi Cetto, Costantino Cipolla, Laura Farneti, Giovanni Fenu, Ilaria Iseppato, Linda Lombi, Andrea Martoni, Antonio Maturo, Alice Ricchini, Francesco Schittulli, Duccio Vanni

PUBLISHED BY: FrancoAngeli, Milan  
YEAR OF PUBLICATION: 2009

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**Summary:**
The volume is based on a research carried out in Italy in 2009 on 2746 cancer patients. The questionnaire was developed after an analysis of the main tools for the research on patient satisfaction. The questionnaire has analyzed the following dimensions: the information about the disease; the emotional and psychological aspects; the evaluation of care from a patient perspective; the patient-physician relationship. The interviews were conducted by volunteers and not by medical professionals. The results had a big echo in the Italian media.

Why consider it to be relevant?
“With Patient Eyes” is a survey on more than 2700 oncological patients in Italy. The research is therefore based on a very numerous sample. The results has shed light on the main social dimensions connected to the patient experience of cancer: A detailed analysis on this illness experience.

EDITORS INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION: Università di Bologna

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Why consider it to be relevant?
The book proposes an analysis of the processes of change taking place in the health and care sector and of how they are planned. All the authors, following the institutional, cultural and social changes currently emerging in European countries, question whether a "new configuration of social well-being" will emerge, which could replace the neoliberal model which has been dominant since the 1970s.
Why consider it to be relevant?
The original Traddle’s Triad Disease/Illness/Sickness does not seem to grasp effectively the existence of a relational damage related to some diseases such as celiac disease. In this book hypothesizes the existence of an additional component, which emerges from the research, that is called Sonetness, a kind of loss of social networks. Damage that remains once settled the question of diet.

Summary:
This book tackles one of the most common food intolerances, celiac disease, from the point of view of the complex interplay of bio-psycho-social damage. This is the first attempt to emerge as at the diagnosis of celiac disease is always possible to connect a social damage, that is manifested in the difficulty to maintain relations sharing food, that represent one of the aspects in which we build relational capital. The need to maintain a lifelong gluten-free diet imposes on those who suffer from celiac disease to bring attention to one of the most natural and socializing acts of people's lives, by acting in this way as a brake in the construction of social relations based on eating. A qualitative research that has analyzed a large number of life stories of people with celiac disease has therefore shown that, once remedied biological damage should be dealt with the problem of social damage that appears to be linked very closely to the age in which celiac disease was diagnosed.

EDITOR INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION:
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Why consider it to be relevant?
Aim of this collection of essays is to reflect upon the construction of sexuality: from institutional practices of control to the development of sexual rights and educational practices. Sexuality has emerged as one of the most compelling interdisciplinary arenas for study. Sexuality is a major organizing principle of social life, a foundation of identity, and one of the major axes of social inequality. Human sexuality, rather than being the simple product of natural “urges” or “drives” is shaped and constructed in social contexts.

Summary:
The articles in this volume reach across disciplinary boundaries to touch on various aspects of sexuality and its relation to gender identity, gender inequality but also sexual rights. The articles range from questions about reproductive health and rights to violence, to law, to media representations of sexuality, and the development of new technologies that regulate and structure new forms of sexual relations. The volume also tries to answer the following questions: Which role can sexuality education play in the prevention of gender violence, homophobia, transphobia? Can the Internet play a role in promoting sexuality education?
Summary:
Nowadays, drug use is undergoing a process of transformation that affects both the pattern of use and consumer profiles. In this book, the author proposes a review of European intervention strategies acting on the drug demand that strive to reduce alcohol and drug consumption. The model is based on three steps: prevention, handling and recovery.

Prevention takes effect when individuals are not yet experimenting with drugs. Handling strategies come into play when people have already experimented with drugs. Their aim is to avoid the harmful effects related to substance abuse by the promotion of abstinence or responsible consumption patterns. Lastly, recovery strategies target individuals who show problematic substance abuse. Their purpose is to recover a state of wellness and integration for the individual. For each step, the European strategies are discussed through a comparative approach focusing deeply on their consequences in terms of outcome.

Why consider it to be relevant?
The originality of this book is the adoption of a European perspective on drug policy and its attempt at assessing the outcome from a demand control strategy side.

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LA MEDICINA DELLE EMOZIONE E DELLE COGNIZIONI
THE MEDICINE OF EMOTIONS AND COGNITIONS

EDITED BY: Antonio Maturo, Kristin Barker

PUBLISHED BY: FrancoAngeli, Milan
YEAR OF PUBLICATION: 2012

Summary:
It is increasingly the case that lay people use a medical framework to give order and meaning to their own problems. In part, this trend is fueled by the influence of media, including television advertising and the widespread availability of health-related information on the Internet. Although the medical gaze continues to be turned toward more aspects of the human condition, medicalization is no longer strictly the result of medical imperialism. Other "engines" of medicalization are influential: consumers, biotechnology - including the pharmaceutical industry - and managed care. Moreover, human enhancement is becoming ever more relevant. Human enhancement, or the use of biomedical technology to improve human performance in a variety of spheres, is taking medicine into new terrain.

Why consider it to be relevant?
Medical explanations for social life are becoming increasingly important in our society. Medicine is not only dealing with the couple sick/healthy, but also with the dimensions of functionality/disfunctionality.
In such a society human nature is transformed by biomedical technology, with significant consequences. Cognitive and emotional enhancements are two examples of this trend.

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Join the Research Network on Sociology of Health and Illness (RN-16)
and the European Sociology Association (ESA)

The Network embraces research on the impact of changing social, cultural and political factors on health within Europe and beyond. This includes but is not limited to themes such as health inequalities, health systems, health professions, migration and health, risk, gender and health, ethnicity and health, bioethics, new genetics, embodiment, lay beliefs and illness accounts. Members’ interests concern both physical and mental health and encompass theoretical as well as empirical research.


The RN-16 has a mailing list and a Newsletter, the purpose of which is to carry announcements of RN activities, conferences, books etc. relevant to the study of health and illness, facilitate exchange of information among list members and foster opportunities for collaborative research.

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Do you want your voice to contribute to the development of sociology and sociological research in Europe? Then join ESA because ESA is in the process of representing sociology at an international level, especially in negotiations about the framing of the European Research Area.

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Renewal of RN-16 Membership

Dear RN-16 members,

We will be very grateful if you could renew your membership. Please send an email to: gisele.tchinda-esa@pouchet.cnrs.fr

Thank you.

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Changes of Address

Dear RN-16 members,

In case you have changed your email address please let us know by sending an email to: newsletter.rn16esa@gmail.com

Thank you.

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Welcoming of notices and Call for papers of interest for RN-16 members

Your notices and Call for Papers that are of interest for RN-16 members are very welcome and must be sent as a word file; please note: no pdf files or email announcements will be considered!

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