Recherches sociographiques

Abstracts



Volume 32, Number 1, 1991

URI: https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/056603ar DOI: https://doi.org/10.7202/056603ar

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Publisher(s)

Département de sociologie, Faculté des sciences sociales, Université Laval

ISSN

0034-1282 (print) 1705-6225 (digital)

Explore this journal

Cite this document

(1991). Abstracts. Recherches sociographiques, 32(1), 139–140. https://doi.org/10.7202/056603ar

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ABSTRACTS

Marie-Aimée CLICHE: Les filles-mères devant les tribunaux de Québec, 1850-1969

The study of jurisprudence is a good means of tracing the evolution of certain social customs, as well as that of a few characteristics of mentality. Using 305 civil and criminal trials involving unwed mothers of the Québec judicial district, we trace the changes in their legal and social status. Until the middle of the 19th century, social pressures and legal customs obliged the presumed fathers to assume their responsibilities. Beginning at the end of the last century, a radical change in jurisprudence, combined with an increase in the number of institutions, resulted in the responsibility for illegitimate children being placed in the hands of the mother and of charitable institutions. It was only after the Second World War that there began to be a return to the imposition of certain obligations upon the presumed fathers, and a reintegration of single mothers into society.

André BLAIS: Le clivage linguistique au Canada

The extent of the linguistic division in Canada is revealed comparing the attitudes of francophones, anglophones and allophones in Québec and in the rest of the country, with reference to three dimensions of Canadian political life: national identity, party orientations and feelings toward the English Canadians, the French Canadians and the Americans. The fundamental division sets apart francophones in Québec from non-francophones in the rest of Canada. Mutual feelings between francophones and anglophones are neither very warm nor very cold. The most profound divisions which occur are related to the status of French. Finally, the passing of Bill 178 by the government of Québec seems to have had little influence on the feeling of English Canadians toward French Canadians.

Marie-France Maranda: L'effet du travail sur la consommation d'alcool et de drogue dans une usine de pâtes et papiers

To what extent are the extrinsic and intrinsic dimensions of work, of the culture and of the position of a group in an organization interrelated with the forms of consumption of alcohol or drugs? Is there an environment in the workplace that is conducive to the emergence of problems of alcoholism or drug addiction, and can it lead to a better understanding of the conditions that are most likely to render a work environment pathogenic? Based on a study of four groups of workers (papermakers, tradesmen, laborers and technicians) in a pulp and paper plant in Québec, we will demonstrate that alcohol use takes the form of a ritual of conviviality when the organization of work facilitates close contact among members of the group, and that it is done individually or in small groups when there is less contact. Drug use does not have the convivial aspects of alcohol: on the contrary, it is perceived at the collective level as a threatening element.

Camille Limoges, Alberto Cambrosio et Denyse Pronovost: La politique scientifique comme représentation construite en contexte bureaucratique: le cas de À l'heure des biotechnologies

To examine the practices surrounding the definition and constitution of a science and technology policy by the Québec Government, we will focus on the drafting of \mathring{A} l'heure des biotechnologies, the plan of action for the development of research on biotechnology, from the beginning in 1981 until its publication in 1982. Our specific goal is to analyze the representations which are constitutive of the plan of action as a peculiar product of bureaucratic activity. In this respect, three practices play a central role: the obligatory resort to telescopic translations, the use of operators which allow for the passage from description to prescription and, finally, the adoption of a structural operating mode in order to reduce uncertainties.