

Contents and Abstracts in English

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Environmental trauma

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This article discusses environmental trauma, a long-term symptom caused by environmental change that affects the relationship and attachment between human and the environment. The starting point of environmental trauma is an event that changes physical environment, but it easily extends to other areas of life. The study is based on interviews collected in Northern Finland. The interviewees have experienced dramatic changes in their physical, cultural, and social environment as a result of hydropower construction and damming of rivers. These changes in the environment destabilized the well-being of local people, causing depression and anxiety. Environmental trauma

is characterized by disconnections, silences and delays. It is passed on in a socially mediated process. My analysis shows that environmental trauma can be repressed for decades. There is often a delay in public discourse: in my research region, only recently environmental trauma has gotten its place in public debate and collective memory.

KEYWORDS: cultural trauma, eco-anxiety, environmental change, environmental trauma, hydropower, Northern Finland

Ambivalent trans citizenship: on gender minorities' citizenship struggles in Finland

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In this qualitative study, we examine how citizenship is experienced in trans individuals' everyday life in Finland. Combining the concepts of ambivalence and everyday citizenship, we explore how citizenship is constructed through the events of daily life. The interview material is thematically analysed according to three themes: trans people's 1) rights, 2) opportunities for political and social participation, and 3) belonging. The results highlight the ambivalence of trans citizenship observable in the tension between the rights and lived experience of trans individuals, and in the elusive nature of belonging. Different institutions, but also cisnormative societal attitudes, have a gatekeeping function in trans individuals' lives. Although opportunities for political campaigning exist in the Finnish democracy, trans individuals' opportunities to influence many aspects of their own lives, such as the medical transition, are limited. Ambivalent citizenship is also visible in the conflict between active resistance of gender norms and having to conform to survive in the world.

KEYWORDS: ambivalence, citizenship, everyday citizenship, gender minorities, politics of belonging, trans citizenship

Society is not; it occurs

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As Covid-19 epidemic spread, a classical sociological idea was actualized, viz. the idea that society occurs, when interaction occurs. Interfering in human encounters was termed closing and opening society. A classical representative of the idea was Georg Simmel with his concept of interaction. It is a problematic concept, however, as it is ambiguous about how to preserve interaction's animation in passing from minor forms of society to more copious ones. This passage is not seamless in Simmel's sociology; its object is duplicated into interactional occurrences and objectified formations. Attempts have been made to overcome the dualism. In this article, examine one of them, Olli Pyyhtinen's interpretation, in which Simmel's lifeless object-forms are replaced by Bruno Latour's agentive ones, whose sociality is supposed to be, despite reification, interactional occurrences. Because of reification, however, sociology left without what to Simmel was most properly society: interaction among human beings. Using the money system as my example, I demonstrate that by substituting mediated interaction for immediate encounters, complications resulting from reification can be avoided and the system of society can be seen as occurring in indirect interaction.

KEYWORDS: interaction, monetary system, reification, Simmel, society