Contents and Abstracts in English

Sosiologia, the Journal of the Westermarck Society, Vol. 59, 2022, No. 3 Editor-in-chief Elina Paju | Managing editor Paula Merkikoski www.sosiologia.fi | sosiologialehti@gmail.com Sosiologia, Paula Merikoski, PL 18, Unioninkatu 35, 00014 Helsingin yliopisto

Current Contents

Sanna Aaltonen:

'The young mates are no longer committed like the old' - Construction of a relational figure in the speech of paper workers	196
Teppo Eskelinen: Worldshops and opportunities: resources of civic action in the context of changing opportunity structures	211
Päivi Pirkkalainen & Reeta Pöyhtäri: Encounters between asylum seekers and locals in a small rural municipality and in media: The case of Kyyjärvi	229

The young mates are no longer committed like the old' - Construction of a relational figure in the speech of paper workers

Sanna Aaltonen, PhD, Docent, University Lecturer, University of Eastern Finland

In this article, I will apply the concept of social figure to a data that consist of interviews conducted within the pulp and paper mill industry. The particular interest lies in how middle-aged paper mill workers depict colleagues younger than themselves as workers, as individuals of their time and as societal actors. As the outcome of my analysis I present the 'younger mate', an ambivalent, relational figure characterized by structural challenges and individual unwillingness to commit either to the moment, the factory, the company, the place or the practices expected from an active citizen. At the same time, he is a valued co-worker. Additionally, the figure embodies concerns over decline of the industrial jobs, communality, solidarity and regional vitality.

KEYWORDS: age structure, pulp and paper industry, social figure, young workers

Worldshops and opportunities: resources of civic action in the context of changing opportunity structures

Teppo Eskelinen, PhD, Docent, University Lecturer, University of Eastern Finland

The article is an analysis of worldshops, from the perspective of external factors enabling civic action. Particular attention is paid to the changes in enabling institutions and cultures of volunteerism, and how these changes have impacted the worldshop organizations. I have interviewed worldshop activists around Finland in a situation in which traditional worldshops have largely withered, but several organizations continue to function without their boutiques. In the qualitative analysis, I synthesize interviewees' thoughts on the reasons behind the downturn, interpreting the interview data particularly through the theoretical lens of opportunity structures. The opportunity structure of worldshops has consisted of public allowances and what I call the "ecosystem of the third world solidarity movement", providing various kinds of resources. As a conclusion, I note that despite individual organizations being largely self-standing, changes in this opportunity structure have significantly impacted the decline of the traditional worldshop activity. These changes have been caused by the often unintended outcomes of small policy shifts and new dynamics within the broader movement. In addition to the empirical findings, the article contributes to the development of the analysis of opportunity structures, as well as mapping the future choices in civic action with a commercial element.

Encounters between asylum seekers and locals in a small rural municipality and in media: The case of Kyyjärvi

Päivi Pirkkalainen, PhD, University Researcher, University of Jyväskylä

Reeta Pöyhtäri, PhD, University Researcher, University of Tampere

In this article, based on media and interview data. we analyse strange encounters (Ahmed 2000) between locals and asylum seekers in the of case Kyyjärvi - a small rural municipality in Finland. In 2015, Kyyjärvi received for the first time ever asylum seekers and became represented in the media as an exceptionally hospitable place in times of increasing hostility towards asylum seekers and restrictions to the state asylum policies. Encounters on the local level and integration of asylum seekers in the local job market, led to mutual friendships and transformed locals' perceptions on immigration policies finally leading to institutional distrust. Media framed these encounters from the locals' point of view and critiqued immigration policies by depicting a story of a welcoming municipality, in which asylum seekers were integrated and found employment. However, the widespread discourse on deservingness of migrants was nevertheless upheld. Through analysis of local experiences and media material, this case study enlightens the potentiality of rural places to welcome refugees within wider structures, such as immigration and regional policies, that in the end define conditions for hospitality.

KEYWORDS: asylum seekers, encounter, hospitality, media, rural area, trust

KEYWORDS: civic action, enabling structure, fair trade, third world movement, solidarity