

Patricia SAJOUS

THE 2011-2013 IRSHS SEMINARS. AN INTERDISCIPLINARY AND INTERPERSONAL APPROACH TO THE THEME OF IDENTITY

The author presents the origins, the institutional context and the operating principles of the cycle of seminars which she inspired and coordinated, from 2011 to 2013, at the Pôle de Recherches en Sciences Humaines et Sociales (PRSH) of the University of Le Havre. This cycle pursued three tightly related goals: to initiate new research on the theme of identity, chosen because of its aptitude to intersect the reflections of the various disciplines; to elaborate tools for an interdisciplinary approach; and to create a link between scholars.

Bruno LECOQUIERRE

LIMITS, INTERFACES, TERRITORIES

The author starts from a broad reference to some recent research on the theme of limits, underlining their general function as an interface of communication and exchange interface between systems. Viewing the notion from a geographical / spatial viewpoint, he then proceeds to study the phenomenon of the border, and how it defines, differentiates, structures and links together various territories and identities. The border appears as a zone of contact and openness, generating exchanges and the creation of riches, more than as a barrier or a place of relegation.

Michaela AXENTE

IDENTITY AND THE PROCESS OF TERRITORIAL CONSTRUCTION. THE CASE OF THE SEINE ESTUARY

Recent research in the field of geography has highlighted the complex nature of territory as a space which is being appropriated by daily practice and experience, as well as by political organisation and reflection, encompassing representational as well as material dimensions. Using the results of a field study realized for her thesis, the author reveals the differences and the interactions between the representations of territorial limits and identities shaped respectively by political and administrative actors, by the conceptors of territorial development projects, and by the local population. The conclusion is that the success of territorial projects cannot result from a coincidence of the various representations, but rather from their articulation and their mutual enrichment.

Albert GUEISSAZ

FROM COLLECTIVE TO PERSONAL IDENTITIES. A SURVEY OF ARTICLES PUBLISHED IN THE *CAHIERS DE SOCIOLOGIE ECONOMIQUE ET CULTURELLE*

This is the second part of a survey of the articles published over these last 30 years by the *Cahiers de sociologie économique et culturelle* on the theme of the construction of identities in multicultural contexts, pointing to the richness and contemporary relevance of these contributions. The article discusses the relation between collective and individual construction of identities, for individuals who are placed at the intersection of several cultural models. In this context, the construction of the self is an enterprise leading to a variety of successes and failures.

Christian CHEVANDIER

PETRIFYING A STATUS AND CONSOLIDATING ONE'S IDENTITY. THE HISTORY OF STATUTORY REGULATIONS AND ITS REFLECTION IN THE MEMORY OF SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

The observation of a diversity of professional groups endowed with an official status (public servants, miners, railroad workers, dockers, hospital staff, policemen...) reveals that the relations between the construction of a collective identity, collective memory, and the real history of social struggles and of the institutionalization of a professional status, are complex variable, and often paradoxical. The analysis is grounded on the author's numerous and variegated investigations and publications about the history of labour and workers' unions.

Isabelle MAILLOCHON

EMERGENCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE USE OF PERSONAL PRONOUNS IN FRENCH : THE QUESTION OF THE LANGUAGE ADDRESSED TO THE CHILD

This article evidences the role of language interaction between mother and child in the development of the use of personal pronouns (in French), during the first stages of the child's linguistic production. Such interactions are also an important contribution to the framing of personal identity. After having recalled the contribution of the main theories and models of the acquisition of language by the child, the author presents the results of a series of precise and quantified observations of language exchanges between mother and child. These results show the evolution of the frequency of occurrence of the various personal pronouns in the child's linguistic production, and the role, as a vector rather than as a model, of the language directed to the child by his or her mother.

Daniel REGUER

A "LOSS OF IDENTITY" POLICY

After a presentation of the main conceptualizations pertaining to the study of old age and ageing, and of their evolution, the article discusses public policies applied to old age, particularly in respect to the role these policies have come to attribute to the principle of "keeping (elderly persons) at home as long as possible". The critical discussion of this notion opens to a reflection on the role of "home" as a reference for the construction of personal identity.

Patricia SAJOUS, Albert GUEISSAZ, Jonas PIGEON

INTERDISCIPLINARY DIALOGUE ON THE PROCESS OF CONSTRUCTION OF IDENTITIES: PROGRESS-REPORT AND PERSPECTIVES

The lessons drawn from the interdisciplinary seminar on the process of construction of identities, which took place at the Pôle de recherches en sciences humaines et sociales (PRSH) of the University of Le Havre between 2011 and 2013, are summarized in this article, under three headings: the observed convergences; the emergence of research orientations; and the observed divergences – in this case an absence of divergences which raises a series of questions. The conclusion is an attempt to evaluate the progress which has been made, and the progress which is still to be made, in the development of interdisciplinary exchanges.