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**Abstracts**

**Transition to Adulthood and Changing Youth**

Mohammad Saeed Zokaei

Reaching adulthood is a complex and multidimensional process, which the status and associated with it are socially constructed. Thus, the changes and phenomenological differences in transition from one group to another, and from one generation to another, imply value and normative changes. The present study, which is based on a representative survey in Tehran, demonstrates that transition to adulthood does not occur as a series of unrelated events, subject to a given temporal sequence, and that its conceptualization should basically be attributed to the ability of independent thinking, commitment and mental aptness of the youth for making personal choices and designing their favorite life style. The findings also show that the cultural context of adulthood has changed and that as the impact of social forces diminishes, youth's expectations become increasingly individualistic.

## **The New Mode of Knowledge Production: Ideology and Reality**

Mohammad Amin Ghaneirad

Michael Gibbons distinguishes between the academic and the new mode of knowledge production. The academic mode can be explained with reference to Robert Merton's ideas. Merton's model considers science as an activity independent of other social institutions, and holds that the normative structure of science results from the independent activities of scientists. Gibbons and his colleagues speak of a major shift in mode of seeking and producing knowledge. The most significant feature of this new mode of knowledge production is that it leaves knowledge open to influences from other social institutions.

Discussing the theoretical models presented by Gibbons and Merton, the present article examines the relationship between these two and the cultural and strategic norms of larger society. The main hypothesis here is that the above-mentioned theoretical models reflect to some extent the reality and to some extent the normative and ideological bias of the scientific community both before and after the cold war, and that the recent theoretical shift in sociology of science and the development of the "new mode of knowledge production" as an explanatory model, is parallel and symmetric to the normative shift of scientific community.

The final part of the article explores our relationship with academic knowledge and the new mode of knowledge production, and deals with the questions of how to explain conditions of knowledge in Iran with reference to these two models, and what doctrines can be concluded from these models in order to improve the conditions.

## **A Sociological Analysis of the Conditions of Citizenship in Lorestan**

Malihe Shiani

Citizenship is one of the most important socio-political concepts of the present age, which has gone through a complex maze in its historical evolution. The concept reflects the range of expectations, rights and duties of members of a given society in relation to one another, institutions and the society itself. Citizenship signifies two major principles; one is the position people attain through their rights and duties, and the other is the conditions the society creates for people to attain or be granted the position. The concept has developed not merely for the purpose of enjoying rights or performing duties but as well for achieving certain goals, such as social development.

Drawing on the findings of a research conducted in the same area, the present paper aims at describing conditions of citizenship and analyzing the factors affecting the change of attitude among citizens toward their rights and duties.

## **Social Conditions and Intellectual Discourses at the Dawn of Constitutional Revolution**

Hasan Sara'ie, Nowrooz Hashemzahi

The purpose of the present article is to analyze the dominant intellectual discourse and examine the impact of internal and external conditions of the Iranian society in the shaping of intellectual ideas at the beginning of the constitutional revolution in the country. It covers the period from 1270 to 1288 solar calendar (1891-1909) and studies the various political, social, cultural and economic features of the society with regard to internal conditions and intellectual, cultural and political and socio-economic impacts of the West, under the title "International Conditions".

The article classifies intellectual ideas according to the concept of discourse. The data are collected from two sources: the scientific and historical documents about social conditions at the beginning of the constitutional revolution in Iran, and analysis of the quality and quantity of the dominant discourse of the period. Thus 38 issues of Ghanoun Newspaper, published by Mirza Malkum Khan at that time, were selected for analysis of the dominant discourse.

The findings demonstrate that first of all, there exists a relation between the various social conditions and the dominant discourse of the time. Second, some of the features of the dominant discourse possess internal correlations. Third, many of the features of the dominant discourse are significantly related to the variable of the time. So the discourse dominant in the constitutional revolution can be compared to a mirror which reflects the conditions, problems and solutions of the society at that time.

### **The Impact of Violence in TV Programs on Children's Behavior**

Gholam Abbas Tavassoli, Reza Fazel

Most studies examining the impact of violence in TV programs on children's behavior are based on the stimulus (scenes of violence on TV) and response (child behavior). The studies are mainly inspired by the theories of mass society and of magic bullets, which hold that watching violence on TV leads to violent behavior among children.

Focusing on the theory of structural functionalism, the present study examines other factors, such as socio-economic status, and parent's behavior toward children as processes mediating between watching TV violence and children's behavior in Iran. It also examines the role of these factors in the extent and intensity of the impact of TV violence on children belonging to different socio-economic statuses and parent styles.

### **Attitude of the People of Isfahan toward Damages of the Social System in Iran**

Ali Rabbani Khorasgani, Vahid Ghassemi

One of the important factors affecting the optimal functioning of any human or non-human system is the identification of its damages. Such identification is considered the building block of modification and improvement. Ignoring the damage to any given element within a system not only will intensify the damage but also will on the basis of the principle of interrelationship among elements cause damage to other elements of the system. This may lead to increased and complex damages, which in turn, cause serious interruptions to the system and eventually lead to its failure. The pathology of all social systems, both micro- or macro- systems is therefore one of the most important means of

modification and improvement of their dynamism. In the present study the authors attempt to identify through experimentation the damages of the social system as a whole, by exploring the attitudes of the people of Isfahan toward six topics: security-judicature, position of the clergy, economic corruptions, turning to or away from religion, characteristics of government authorities and administrators, and hopefulness about the future. This paper presents a pathology of the social system in Iran, together with suggestions for its modification from the viewpoint of the research population. It also examines the impact of the above social damages on religious drawback.

### **A Social Theory for the Twenty First Century**

Atilio Buron, Translated by Farhand Ershad

The purpose of this article is to examine the outcomes and impacts of the nihilism advocated by post-structuralism and neo-liberalism on the development of social theory in the final decades of the twentieth century. The cultural atmosphere surrounding the issue implies that the reconstruction of social theory is irregular and useless. Elaborating on the various factors which can explain the principles and areas of this anti-theory, the present article argues that the serious need for reconstructing a social theory requires shifting from clear-cut extra- specialist perspectives (which is the legacy of positivist tradition) to collectivism and theoretical universalism (holism).