



UNIWERSYTET WARSZAWSKI
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International Scientific Conference

Debates on Rehabilitation: The Idea, Research, and Vectors of Development

18 May 2022

PRESENTATION TOPICS AND THESES FOR DISCUSSION

SESSION ONE

Lesław Pytka, Prof., PhD

“I am in doubt, and I was so certain... Directions of development in rehabilitation pedagogy”

“Everything has happened before only differently...” It is not certain what changes: the world’s essence or merely its images and the language used to describe and explain the human being and the world.

With doubts being voiced more and more often about whether rehabilitation is possible and whether it exists at all, especially in state institutions, it should probably be declared bankrupt. But this conclusion seems to be premature and strongly exaggerated. As the contemporary world evolves, rehabilitation pedagogy should change as well. Perhaps it is time to start building the foundations of a new discipline based on it: social reintegration anthropology. This, however, is a huge challenge for a massive number of researchers. Who is to do it? I do not know, hence my doubt.

Bartłomiej Skowroński, PhD

“Czesław Czapów and his typologies of defective integration of attitudes: An attempt at empirical verification”

The presentation will be devoted to issues associated with the typologies of defective integration of attitudes as conceptualized by Czesław Czapów. The author will discuss the results of his empirical research on this subject.

The presentation will begin with the structure of attitude according to Czesław Czapów and the types of defective integration of the attitudes he identified. Next, the author will present the methodological problems involved in the empirical verification of the theory of defective integration of attitudes. The following part will be devoted to the results of research on the factor structure of defective integration of attitudes

based on factor analysis (exploratory and confirmatory), constituting the point of departure for the development of a new assessment tool.

In conclusion, the author will speak about the practical implications of his investigations and about further research prospects.

SESSION TWO

Ueli Hostettler, Prof., PhD

“Change, education, and development in the Swiss penitentiary system from the perspective of the staff and prisoners”

Starting from the formula of “change x education = development,” the author of the presentation focuses on the changes currently taking place in the Swiss penitentiary system and on the role played in these changes by education, both for prisoners and for the prison staff. After general remarks on the key terms: change, education, and development, the author will present the issues of prisoner education, a relatively new instrument of intervention in Swiss prisons, and the professional development of prison staff and management, starting from the 1970s. This historical reconstruction covers four decades, allows for placing Swiss solutions in the international context, including the perspective of a penitentiary system aimed at social reintegration, and finally-highlights the central role of education in the fulfillment of the social mission inherent in the idea of rehabilitation.

The lecture is based on interdisciplinary research conducted since 2006 by the Prison Research Group, first at the University of Freiburg and then, since 2015, at the University of Bern.

Johann Endres, PhD

“Rehabilitation in the German penitentiary system”

The presentation is devoted to the realization of rehabilitation-related aims of prison sentence execution in the German penitentiary system, with special focus on empirical data attesting to the effectiveness of interventions and programs.

The following issues are crucial for the functioning of the German penitentiary system:

- the abandonment of short prison sentences, which results in a relatively low prisonization rate;
- interventions targeted at perpetrators of violence and sex offenders in specialized facilities ("social therapy");
- the application of instruments facilitating social reintegration (e.g., permits for temporary release from prison and various forms of post-penitentiary assistance);

- interdisciplinary cooperation of specialists in various professions (lawyers, psychologists, social workers, physicians/psychiatrists, clergy, and prison staff).

The current challenges faced by the German penitentiary system include the following issues:

- the coronavirus pandemic and its consequences;
- the somewhat frustrating results of research on the effectiveness of rehabilitation, contrasting with high expectations;
- the big problems related to substance use (addiction to drugs and alcohol);
- the growing diversity of the prison population (in terms of ethnicity, race, and religion);
- divergent expectations of the scientific community and the general public.

The presentation will also be an attempt to show the prospects and directions of development for German in-prison rehabilitation.

SESSION THREE

David Prescott, PhD

“Decades of research and practice: What have we learned?”

Presentation theses:

1. ineffectiveness of punishment;
2. probation combined with treatment may be effective;
3. the combination of probation and therapeutic interventions (treatment) may be more effective;
4. the significance of the probation officer' and the therapist' positive personal characteristics.