

SOME APPLICATIONS OF ORAL HISTORY: CONTRIBUTION TO THE STUDY OF GENDER, AND ETHNIC AND EXCLUDED GROUPS

Yara Dulce Bandeira de Ataíde

This paper reports on the applications of the methodology of oral history as a tool for a better understanding of the language of discriminated and excluded people, enlarging the traditional concept of history in favour of a more democratic one. When used to give voice to popular groups or people without history, oral history opens up an anthropological and pedagogical perspective and new possibilities for research that enlarge the perceptions and conceptions of the researcher as well as the interviewed, enriching their perception of the word and about each other, and adding to historiography a new look on documentary fonts formerly distorted or disregarded.

JOURNALISM AND POLITICAL COMPROMISE TODAY

Alzira Alves de Abreu

This paper aims to present some issues related with the choice of journalism as a profession and the implications of this choice for professional practice. Oral testimonies have proved very important for the establishment of hypothesis and the understanding of the forms of behaviour and attitudes prevalent at present among Brazilian journalists.

VAN GOGH AND THE LOSS OF CONFIDENCE

Frederic Chordá

Religious experience is reviewed in the Nineteenth Century as a result of scientific discoveries. Van Gogh participates in this crisis of faith; he never solved this situation which eventually pushed him to commit suicide. He expresses this psychological state in his paintings of St.-Rémy and Auvers. The artist presents his religious concerns using elements of nature and landscape, without resorting to traditional iconography. In *The Starry Night* he shows his yearning to find an answer in the Cosmos.

ARNAVUTKÖY 1900-2000. URBAN TRANSFORMATION AT A MULTI-ETHNIC NEIGHBOURHOOD OF ISTANBUL

Günhan Danisman and Ismail Üstün

Arnavutköy, a multi-ethnic suburban neighbourhood of Istanbul situated half-way along the European shores of the Bosphorus, is now being threatened by a planned 3rd bridge. The neighbourhood has been a predominantly Greek Orthodox community through its long history. Its Moslem, Armenian and Jewish populations have always been minorities. In 1900 Arnavutköy is still one of the favourite suburban areas of the Ottoman capital with similar population proportions. By the end of the century, however, the official census figures for the 1999 General Elections show that the ethnic composition has changed dramatically, with the Moslems composing more than 90% of the population, and the Greek Orthodox citizens making up 5% of the total. The story of this urban transformation, which has radically changed the property ownership pattern and irreversibly altered the urban sociology of the neighbourhood, is being traced through the narratives of some of its senior citizens of various ethnic backgrounds, almost all of them over the age of 70. The interviews have been recorded together with Arnavutköy's local

historian, Mr. Ismail Üstün, on the occasion of the protests launched by the Citizen's Initiative against the planned 3rd bridge across the Bosphorus, which will devastate Arnavutköy's important architectural and historic fabric.

THE FILM ABOUT THERESIENSTADT. AN UNUSUAL EXAMPLE OF NAZI PROPAGANDA

Rafael de España

For nearly two decades little was known about a documentary made in 1944-45 by the nazis about the Theresienstadt ghetto in Czechoslovakia. The discovery in 1964 of some footage with soundtrack, comprising a total running time of 15 minutes, gave a clearer idea of the real purpose of the film: presenting the life in the camp as a holiday resort. With this material, some other excerpts found in 1987, and the sketches made in the camp by artist Jo Spier, the historian Karel Margry has been able to reconstruct the complete film. Available on video and sometimes shown by TV channels, we now can see how that was to be the last step prior to the Auschwitz crematorium appeared as a clean and comfortable village. Although unreleased, *Theresienstadt* remains a fine example of Nazi film propaganda.

WILL WOMEN'S POLITICAL EQUALITY CHANGE THE POLITICAL SYSTEM?: THE GENDER GAP IN THE UNITED STATES

Jytte Klausen

Contemporary discussions of the gender gap often take for granted that women are more likely than men to support the left and to vote for generous social policies. While this is the case today, women's preferences for conservative parties and familialist policies help the right for most of the years critical to the development of the postwar welfare state. Based on a shift-share analysis, we can estimate that had women voted like men the labour party would have remained in office throughout the 1950s and 1960s in Great Britain and the German Social Democrats had been in a position to assume government power as early as 1957. The lesson from the decades of the conservative gender gap is that essentialist expectations about the progressive nature of women's political agency are misplaced. Values and party preferences are not given but shaped by policies tying women to labor market or the family, and by the dynamics of party competition. A shift to parity representation in contemporary Europe may temporarily provide a boost for the left, but only as long as left parties do the better job at articulating policies addressing women's protective interests.

EXILE TIBET: POLITICS AND POSSIBILITIES OF THE PAST

Carole Mei McGranahan

In this article, I examine the relationship between oral history and anthropology through a discussion of "the production of history." Starting from equating of history to a combination of "truth, fear, and lies," I ask what contributions oral history might make towards our understanding of personal, community, and institutional negotiations about history. Concerned specifically with the politics and possibilities of history in exile Tibet, I focus on the efforts of four individuals to make sense of the past. Their efforts never involve only their "own" story, but those of larger entities as well as the social worlds and politics behind their histories. Access to these stories behind the histories may be aided

through use of anthropological insights and methods. In conclusion, I suggest that by studying the production as well as the content of history, we are able to return to a series of innovative and internal 1970s prescriptions for the creation of a critical oral history.

"PROMINENT" PEOPLE IN THERESIENSTADT (TEREZÍN)

Alice von Plato and Henriette Schlesinger

This article deals with a group of about one hundred persons who were imprisoned in the Nazi camp of Theresienstadt. The so-called "Prominente" -prominent people- represented a very small percentage of the total number of 140.000 prisoners of Theresienstadt. Though also threatened by the arbitrary measures of the SS, they were a "privileged" group among concentration camp prisoners. Though the "Prominente" are very often mentioned in accounts of survivors of Theresienstadt little is known about this group.

The basis of our research is an album containing 94 *curricula vitae* (mostly joined by photographs) of prominent people in Theresienstadt. Beside the actual album we have raised biographical data in archives, civil administrations and other official institutions and in communication with the children and other relatives of the "Prominente" about the time before persecution, during the Third Reich and concerning the survivors after 1945. The album is a special source because the *curricula vitae*, which it contains, are, of course, tainted in a special way. Nevertheless the life stories which the inmates offered the Nazi authorities were as heterogeneous as the group of "Prominente" itself.

DESIGNING AN ORAL HISTORY PROJECT AND CONDUCTING AN INTERVIEW

Linda Shopes

This set of Guidelines lays out, in step-by-step fashion, a process for preparing for, conducting, and following up on an oral history interview. The author developed them for use in a variety of settings, from community-to university-based oral history interviews.

THE BLOOD OF THE LAND

Antonio Torres Montenegro

The widows of Brazilian landless rural workers assassinated in the eighties and nineties in the struggle for land constitute the central theme of this article. The article consists of a series of reflections and analyses of the oral testimony of these widows contained in a five-volume collection organized by Professor Maristela de Paula Andrade of the Federal University of Maranhão (Brazil). Central of our analysis is the perpetuation of violence against rural workers over several decades. We have utilized a passage from João Cabral de Mello's poem "Morte e Vida Severina" as an allegory which exemplifies this problem. The poem, although written in 1950 remains extremely relevant to the present day situation in rural Brazil.

ARCHIVES AND SOURCES IN THE DIDACTICS OF HISTORY

Gemma Tribó Traveria

This article considers the possibilities offered by a didactic use of archival resources to enhance the teaching of history. The approach from the perspective of the didactics of history integrates history's own disciplinary contributions with those from the fields of pedagogy, learning psychology and the sociology of education. The arguments in favour of this didactic approach in the teaching of history are based on critical thinking and

a socio-affective methodology, and are oriented towards fostering the students' intellectual autonomy. The author analyses the different variables to be considered in a didactical action based on archival resources: typology of the archives, educational level, curricular contents, psychopedagogical variables, teaching sequence, didactical transposition, pedagogical models and knowledge transfer abilities. The conclusions offer an evaluation of the difficulties and advantages of didactical work with primary sources.

TRUST IN HISTORY

Mercedes Vilanova

This essay is a reflection on the sense of trust, based on Niklas Luhman's pioneering work, and on the sense of history making, based on personal reflections as well as those from other authors, such as Nietzsche, Nadin, Ortega y Gasset, Castells and Fernández-Martorell. The central proposition is that trusting may be considered as synonymous with history making, as both acts are possible only thanks to the existence of a future, the only time really at our disposal, and both are based on past experiences. Besides, the text also examines historical periodization and the importance of the present digital revolution.

THE END OF HISTORY AND THE FALL OF COMMUNISM

Keith Windschuttle

This is a chapter of one of the most controversial and best-selling works of Australian scholarship in recent years. The book is a critique of the influence of postmodernism, poststructuralism and cultural studies on the writing of history. In this chapter, the author criticises the use of Hegelian philosophy of history in Francis Fukuyama's influential work *The End of History*, as well as showing the connections between French postmodernism and the postwar nostalgia of the intellectual remnants of Hitler's Third Reich. Professor Hugh Lloyd-Jones in the *Times Literary Supplement* named the book one of the two best of 1997, calling it "a masterly refutation of the pretentious theorising of the enemies of the notion of historical truth and the traditional discipline of history". Roger Kimball in the *Wall Street Journal* described it as "the most important and sobering new book of cultural criticism since Allan Bloom's *The Closing of the American Mind*".