

Method of Multicultural Communication for Children and Youth International Seminar of Narrative Psychology and Education (1)

June 15, 2014, Kyoto, Japan
Ritsumeikan University

Organizer: Yoko Yamada
Ritsumeikan University

Bullying in Multicultural Schools

13:30-15:00 | Room 403•404 Soshikan Hall

Speaker: Dagmar, Strohmeier
University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria (Austria)

Translation and comment: Yuichi Toda
Osaka University of Education, (Japan)

This talk gives an overview of my research program conducted in Austria during the last 10 years. The talk is based on my habilitation thesis submitted to the University of Vienna in October 2013 to obtain the *venia legendi* in Psychology. The *venia legendi* is the highest possible the degree awarded from research universities in the German speaking countries (Austria, Germany, Switzerland).

Bullying among students has emerged as a major concern for both researchers and practitioners countries all over the world. Since many years the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study (Currie, et al., 2012) has reported comparatively high prevalence rates of bullying and victimization in Austria.

The main goal of my research program was twofold. The scientific goal was to integrate aspects of multiculturalism and migration into studies on bullying and victimization; the societal goal was to develop, apply and evaluate a national strategy and an evidence-based-program to improve the situation in (multicultural) schools.

First, a conceptual model was developed by combining the main ideas of acculturation theory (Berry 1997, 2006) and the socio-ecological model (Bronfenbrenner 1979) and by applying a developmental perspective. Based on this conceptual model a series of empirical studies have been conducted to better understand (a) underlying motives for bullying and (b) risk factors for victimization in multicultural schools. These studies have been conducted in Austria, Norway, Finland and Turkey.

Second, a national strategy to prevent violence in schools has been developed. As part of this strategy, the ViSC program has been nationally implemented in Austrians secondary schools. Both the national strategy and the ViSC program have been evaluated applying rigorous methodological standards.

In the talk I will summarize the main results of the empirical studies; I will give a short introduction of the preventive approach developed in Austria to combat bullying in schools; and I will share many of the lessons learned during this process.

Possibilities and Difficulties of Suicide Prevention in School Settings: From Research Findings and Practices

15:30-16:00 | Room 403•404 Soshikan Hall

Speaker: Daisuke Kawashima
School of Psychology, Chukyo University (Japan)

First, I would like to introduce my researches and practices on suicide prevention in school settings, i.e., literature reviews on suicide prevention programs, a survey for teachers' difficulties of dealing with students' self-harm and suicide, and development and evaluation of the suicide prevention program named 'GRIP'. Secondly, I would like to mention the difficulty of the above approach and point out the importance of reflective practice through qualitative thinking. Finally, possibilities and difficulties of suicide prevention in school settings will be discussed.

Towards a model of (re)constructing meaning in life

16:00-16:30 | Room 403•404 Soshikan Hall

Speaker: Yu Urata
Graduate School of Education, Kyoto University (Japan)

The search for meaning in life is a fundamental psychological motivation and the presence of meaning is important to psychological health. There are several psycho-educational approaches to facilitate meaning making, including Meaning Therapy (Wong), Ultimate Meanings Technique (Leontiev), Philosophical Counseling (Raabe), and the Searching for Meaning in Life program (Westerhof et al.). In my talk, I would like to review the theory, research and practical applications of the meaning in life and propose a meaning-oriented approach to (re)construct meaning.

Exchange of Information

18:00- | Room 405 Soshikan Hall