

ABSTRACTS



Pablo Picasso, *Fauno con estrellas*

PROFESSIONAL BUREAUCRACY INDIVIDUALISTIC OR *ESPRIT DE CORPS*?

David Arellano Geult

ABSTRACT: Using the first survey applied to certified as civil service servants at federal level in Mexico, this article looks to understand if a new administrative culture is already rising within this bureaucratic group. Mexican civil service is a young institution: its law was passed in 2003 after the dominant party that controlled the presidency for more than 70 years (PRI) lost it in 2000. The civil service law of 2003 aims to eliminate the spoils system and begins a new era for public administration. However, this law also assumes that a civil service is basically a problem of “professionalization” of individuals avoiding any attempt to see the civil service as a group of persons developing a group morale and ethos. This paper argues that an *esprit de corps* is an inevitable outcome of the maturity of a civil service, and the Mexican one will not be the exception.

KEY WORDS: Bureaucratic group, civil service, *esprit de corps*, Mexico.

PUBLIC POLICIES: DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THEIR ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

Myriam Cardozo Brum

ABSTRACT: The article analyses the most important discussions in theoretical and empirical public policies with regards to different approaches, methods and research techniques used in two relevant stages of their process: ex-ante analysis and ex-post evaluation. It concludes that different weaknesses, such as, extremely simplified processes that only focus on economics and that neglect qualitative information, justify the limited use of the analysis in the decision-making process. In evaluation matter, it recognizes relevant progress in two different approaches (constructivism and positivism). It argues in favor of the latter because it shows more comprehension on the complexity of the public policies, and it demonstrates more interest in

social participation, interdisciplinary studies and the combination of qualitative and quantitative methods.

KEY WORDS: Public policies, analysis evaluation, methods, Mexico.

POLITICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MUNICIPAL DEBT IN NORTHWEST MÉXICO: 1989-2007

Jehú Jonathan Ramírez Camberos and Juan Poom Medina

ABSTRACT: This paper analyzes the effect that political and institutional factors at the level of debt that municipalities hire annually. the analysis includes the hundred municipalities that are part of the states of Baja California, Baja California sur, Sonora and Sinaloa during the period 1989 to 2007. The empirical results obtained by testing panel data techniques on fixed and random effects. The evidence reveals that the democratization process in the states and municipalities, identified primarily through the phenomenon of divided government has a significant impact in reducing the level of municipal debt. also, the design of federalism produces effects contrary to financial balance. finally, formal institutions of control have not been efficient enough to give a proper direction to the financial requirements of municipalities.

KEY WORDS: Debt, municipalities, northwest, federalism, institutions.

EPISTEMOLOGICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS FOR THE EVALUATION OF PUBLIC POLICIES

José Luis Osuna and Carlos Bueno Suárez

ABSTRACT: There is not a evaluation`s methodology for analysis public policy agreed and widely accepted. This article propose, with the strict scientific rigor required, a methodological framework that can guide

the analytical work of critical and constructive evaluation of the public interventions. So, it provides some useful theoretical insights from the epistemological framework to determine the principles, approach and method, as well as the choice of techniques and analytical tools that have to be part of, in practice, the mainstay of the evaluation processes of public policy.

KEY WORDS: Evaluation, public policy, research methods, epistemology.

A PROPOSED MODEL FOR THE EVALUATION OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROJECTS BASED ON PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS

Manuel Ignacio Martínez Espinoza

ABSTRACT: Public Policy Studies enable the examination of the design, process and outcomes of public interventions by evaluating the context in which the interventions are implemented. However, the Public Policy Studies have been largely ignored by the evaluative studies of the international development cooperation projects. Based on these grounds, this paper presents a proposal for analyzing the management of development cooperation projects based on the field of Public Policy. The proposal is based on interdisciplinary perspective and seeks to analyze the organizations implementing development projects as well as their interaction in three phases of public policy (formulation, implementation and evaluation). The article concludes that the analysis of the public should be included in the evaluations of the development cooperation.

KEY WORDS: Public policies, public management, evaluation, development cooperation.

INCONGRUITIES SELECTIVE: SOCIAL POLICY BENEFICIARIES IN MEXICO AND THE FEDERAL DISTRICT

Gabriela Tapia Téllez and Rebeca Reza Granados

ABSTRACT: The following article deals with one of the most important explanations behind the lack of positive impact that social policy has in fighting inequality in Mexico and the Federal District in recent years. The article is based on an explanation that circles the famous debate in social policy over the impact that programs and projects have over inequality based on two of its most known methodologies: universalisation versus focalization of beneficiaries. Specifically, this article analyses federal programs in México and programs implemented by the Federal District Government. The argument that it defends is that both programs designed by the Federal government and programs designed by the Federal District tend to universalize the reception of social benefits which in the end has no positive impact over inequality, but on the contrary, increase it by granting a larger percentage of social expenditure to high social classes. In this flaw, we find one of the main explanations behind the increases in inequality in Mexico in the last years despite the increase in social expenditure.

KEY WORDS: Social policy, inequality, progressive, regressive, Mexico.

MARX AND THE CRITIQUE OF REASON IN MODERNITY

Sergio Pérez Cortés

ABSTRACT: The present article intends to show some of the essential features of the category of 'critique' in the work of K. Marx, simultaneously placing it in a conception of the critical task that started with Hegel and has continued to the present day. This conception rests on the central idea that everything substantial, both in the objects of the theory as in the categories this theory uses, has its foundation in the FORM reached historically through social relations and concepts. The 'critique' is

simultaneously radical and also production of new knowledge. Marx's epistemology revolves around these ideas.

KEY WORDS: Marx, critique, epistemology, classical political economy.

THE POLITICAL ANTHROPOMORPHISM IN PLATO'S REPUBLIC

Armando Villegas Contreras

ABSTRACT: This essay analyzes the consequences of political anthropomorphism in Plato's Republic. On the basis of the metaphor that likens the city to a human body, Plato explains how the city must be organized and political justice must be done. I try to explain how the relations between medical and political thought in the *Republic* bring into play a series of metaphors that create an image of a vertical, ordered, hierarchical State; that is to say, an anti-democratic State. Therefore, this work examines the discursive consequences of Plato's metaphor, for example: politics conceived as emphasizing the concept of identity by sacrificing differences.

KEY WORDS: Metaphor, politics, justice, anthropomorphism, medicine.

HOUSEBROKEN AT THE THOUGHT OF THINKING EMANCIPATED. NOTES ON THE TRANSFORMATION OF INTELLECTUAL WORK IN LATIN AMERICA

Ricardo Ernst Montenegro

ABSTRACT: Assuming the scene in which, during the last half century, most societies in the region have experienced profound political, economic and cultural changes, this article offers a critical reflection on the meaning and development of one of the social activities which have modeled this process in the region: the intellectual work. This discussion begins with a brief disambiguation of the category, defining

its specificity. Then, we analyze diachronically some of the milestones in the fight to destabilize / stabilize a certain hegemonic view on it. Finally, we offer some clues to assess the present and possibilities of this process in the region.

KEY WORDS: Epistemology, politics, intellectual work, hegemony, social change.

REFLECTIONS ON THE DESTITUTION CAPACITY OF SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA

Victoria Darling

ABSTRACT: Over recent years, various social movements staged events of magnitude assertive in Latin America, considering the cases of Ecuador, Argentina and Bolivia. In this article we analyze the main dimensions of these groups, to deepen later on their *destitution capacity*. This research is located within the study-oriented analysis of the social practices logic. Along the argument we note that the role and deployment of these intermittent motions of the twenty-first century in addition to their innovative actions have highlighted the need to build new interpretive maps for sociological analysis. In conclusion, we postulate that the latent consciousness of people's power seems to be the key for a better reading of the need to transform the democratic praxis.

KEY WORDS: Social movements, destitution capacity, Latin America, crisis, democracy building.

GO BACK HOME? THE EXPERIENCE OF ARGENTINE EXILES RETURN

María Soledad Lastra

ABSTRACT: This article seeks to investigate about return experience of argentine politicians migrants that returned home in

early '80 from his exile in Mexico, driven by the democratic transition. From cultural sociology, we wonder about the meaning of the return after exile and about the interaction of these actors with the political and social memory of that time. The political comeback is understood as a new immigrant experience that means a sudden break with the horizons of previous expectations of these actors. In the confusion produced by a country that has changed, a new framework of experience is founded and makes the returnees rebuild the meanings of everyday life.

KEY WORDS: Cultural sociology, experience, exile, returns.

THE PUBLIC ELECTRICITY SERVICE IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA: TENSIONS ABOUT THE QUALITY / COST ADJUSTMENTS TO THE SERVICE RELATIONSHIP

Edgar Belmont Cortés

ABSTRACT: In this article we look to place historically the conflict that exists in the center area of the country with the “closedown” of the public sector company of electric energy “Luz y Fuerza del Centro”; we analyze the paradoxes that are configured around of the decree of extinction of the company and in particular around of the promise of raise the quality of electricity service and to provide a better treatment to the customer/user. In order to do this, we analyze the contradictions of the policy energy and its implications in the space productive partner, as well as the technical imperatives and operations that are involved in the production of good service.

KEY WORDS: Competitiveness, energy policy, public service of electric energy, Luz y Fuerza del Centro, activity of service, relational work.

