

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Listed below are abstracts of student-faculty collaborative work presented at regional, national, and international conferences.

Katelyn Marx

(Blythe Hinitz, Faculty Sponsor)

Benefits of Gender-Specific Classes

Presented at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Conference, Washington D.C., November 21, 2009, and the World Organization for Early Childhood Education Conference, Goteborg, Sweden, August 11, 2010

This study aimed to determine whether gender specific classrooms are more beneficial to both boys and girls than coeducational classrooms. The researcher's hypothesis was that educators who teach single sex classes experience better results (that is, better grades and fewer discipline issues) than when they teach coeducational classes. Two gender-specific kindergarten teachers participated in the study. Each completed a gender-specific classroom questionnaire in which they were asked about their years of teaching and their experiences with both gender-specific and coeducational classes. The results of the questionnaire revealed that both teachers favor teaching gender-specific classes. The questionnaires showed that both teachers have seen better grades, no serious discipline problems, and many of their students reading at a first-grade level.

Divya Sharma

(John Sisko, Faculty Sponsor)

Deontological Ethics vs. Utilitarianism

Presented at the Northeast Regional Honors Conference, Harrisburg, PA, April 8-11, 2010

In act consequentialism, an act is morally permissible if the net amount of "good" that results is greater than that of the other possible actions under consideration for that circumstance. The theory that epitomizes this concept is classic utilitarianism, which claims that actions that are beneficial for the majority of people are morally correct. Deontological ethics, on the other hand, claims that acts are morally permissible based on the action and the perpetrator's intentions rather than the consequences. Therefore, an act that results in "bad" consequences may be considered morally acceptable. The trolley problem presents a compelling case to explore these two ethical approaches. Deontological ethics, in contrast to utilitarianism, provides a more sound resolution to the trolley problem.

Janine Fela

(Jo Carney, Faculty Sponsor)

"By God's Grace": A Comparative Analysis of Straparola's "The Pig Prince" and England's King Henry VIII

Presented at the 31st Annual Plymouth State University Medieval and Renaissance Conference, Plymouth, NH, April 16-17, 2010

Fairy tales explore taboo and provocative subjects by cloaking them in animal imagery and fantastic transformations. There are striking parallels between the life of England's King Henry VIII and the title character in Straparola's fairy tale, "The Pig Prince." The story explores arranged marriages, the nobility's preoccupation with producing heirs, the disposability of female consorts, and a king's notoriously volatile temper. King Henry VIII, of course, was known for his six marriages, and in his later years, for his hot-blooded disposition. Tales such as Straparola's, which concern procreation, power disparities, and arranged marriages to "beastly" mates are didactic as well as entertaining. Contextualized by critical works by Maria Tatar and Jack Zipes and historical accounts by Alison Weir and Jasper Ridley, my paper traced connections between arranged marriages and the fairy tale's depiction of "beauties and beasts." Straparola's retelling of true events reflects on the upbringing of royal heirs and the detrimental

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effects of allowing female consorts too much power. Women were expected to submit upon entering into marriage.

Kristen Randolph

(Jason Dahling, Faculty Sponsor)

Emotional Display Rule Deviance: Antecedents and Consequences

Presented at the 26th Annual Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology, Inc. (SIOP) Conference, Chicago, IL, April 14-16, 2011

Display rule deviance occurs when employees express emotions that are inconsistent with emotional display norms. The researchers' four empirical studies examine antecedents and consequences of display rule deviance, focusing on both volitional and nonvolitional deviance from display rules, and several different operationalizations of deviance.

Tamar Samuelian

(Blythe Hinitz, Faculty Sponsor)

Genocide and Human Rights Education

Presented at the New Jersey Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NJAECTE) Conference, Wayne, NJ, June 2, 2011

Genocide is a reality today for the people of Sudan, and the risk of genocide remains frighteningly real for people in other hot spots around the world. If nations pursue only their own self-interest without considering their responsibilities to other peoples and nations, then as Primo Levi said in 1986: "It happened; therefore, it can happen again." Informing children of genocides past and present gives hope for the world's future. Today's children are future leaders of the world, so by teaching them about such atrocities as the Armenian genocide, we may be able to limit future horrors. My paper defined the terms *genocide* and *human rights*, then provided a brief history of the Armenian people, focusing on the Armenian Genocide of 1915, the first of the twentieth century. It also discussed genocide and human rights education in the U.S. in both early childhood classrooms and in grades five through twelve. The paper explored the discovery of one's identity and drew analogies between genocide and bullying to make this serious subject understandable to young children.

Dana Morton and Conor Byrne

(Jason Dahling, Faculty Sponsor)

Spirituality, Religion, and Emotional Labor in the Workplace

Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, San Antonio, TX, August 12-16, 2011

Emotional labor is the regulation of emotional displays as part of a work role. To date, there has been little research on how spirituality and religion affect the performance and consequences of emotional labor. This is an important omission given a growing awareness that religion and spirituality are important components of people's lives that continue to inform their feelings, thoughts, and behavior at work. Accordingly, we have developed a series of integrative propositions that focus on issues such as the interplay between organizational and religious expectations for emotional displays toward others, as well as the ability of religious support and beliefs to buffer the negative effects of emotional labor on individual employees. Our hope is that these ideas spark interdisciplinary research on emotional labor that draws on a wider body of perspectives in management.

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