

ABSTRACTS/RESÚMENES

The Dilemmas of development. The public discussion over the problem of creating social welfare

Miguel Ángel Latouche

The democratic argument has become part of a cosmopolitan discourse, by way of which different political systems seek to legitimate diverse social arrangements. Democracy is presented as the only way to construct strategies of collective action regarded as socially efficient. Beyond the mechanisms designed to designate, by way of citizen participation in more or less competitive electoral processes, those to be invested with power and the administration of public affairs, democracy is called on to foster a capacity for promoting the exercise of citizens' freedom, collective interests while also improving living standards and the possibility that individuals can effectively live, in Sen's words, "the sort of life they want to live".

Key words: Democracy, liberty, development, legitimacy, public space.

When electoral passions blinded science and methodology

Oscar Viloria H.

This article sums up a series of observations made at the time about the report titled 'Looking for a Black Swan' (August 2004) which denounced a supposed electoral fraud in the Recall Referendum, on the basis of statistical and other quantitative arguments. Given the expertise of the authors of the report, the article concludes that the methodological weaknesses of the report can only be explained taking into account the political urgencies of the moment.

Key words: Black swan, recall referendum, electoral fraud, Venezuela.

Socio-demographic indicators and social privation in Venezuela

Thaís Ledezma, Betty Pérez, Alicia Ortega de M. Maritza Landaeta J.

This article offers a bio-demographic and socio-economic framework covering the last five decades and registering the life style of the least-favored groups. Venezuela is a country undergoing a demographic transition, with medium-to-low

fecundity levels and a relatively low mortality rate. Its median age is 24. Since 1950, there have been positive changes: in 2005, average school attendance for those 15 or more years old reached 9 years; and in 2001, life expectation was 20 years greater than in 1950. However, living conditions are affected by long-term structural factors which determine notable inequalities. The vulnerability of those most exposed depends basically on two factors: insertion in the labor market (unequal opportunities) and the possibility of counting on a second (or additional) income. In any event, these opportunities are severely conditioned by the general economic situation which, in turn, depends on oil prices.

Key words: Bio-Demography, social inequality, poverty, Venezuela.

The role of social capital in correcting information problems in financial markets

Natan Lederman Sokol

This research presents empirical information on borrowing group data from Venezuela, which indicates that *social capital* based on social ties within group lending programs, where all group members are jointly liable, contributes to mitigate market failures, reducing moral hazard. The principle of joint-liability creates incentives for individual group members to screen, peer monitoring, state verification, and enforcement of repayments.

Key words: Adverse selection, moral hazard, enforcement, social capital.

Evolución del término 'Organización No-Gubernamental' (ONG)

María Olivo U.

El término usado para describir muchas organizaciones sin fines de lucro es el de Organización No Gubernamental (ONG). Se han presentado problemas en el uso del término ONGs porque se ha utilizado para designar organizaciones heterogéneas lo cual ha impedido conocer realmente su significado real y la forma como debe ser aplicado. ONGs es habitualmente usado por organizaciones multilaterales, bilaterales, privadas y en todos los países del mundo. Ante esto surge preguntar: ¿Qué significa Organización No Gubernamental? ¿Dónde se originó este término? ¿Cómo el término ONGs se ha desarrollado? El uso de términos genéricos puede ser válido bajo ciertas circunstancias, pero puede presentar serios problemas al ser aplicados para estudio en diferentes campos y en la investigación. No es posible analizar un problema o establecer una metodología de investigación que pueda alcanzar conclusiones razonables si no está claramente definida la terminología de lo que se estudia, tanto en su proceso como en sus efectos. En este ensayo se examina el origen, el desarrollo y el significado del término ONG desde el siglo XIX hasta la década de 1990 y se trata de

determinar su uso común en la actualidad en los diferentes campo. En el primer apartado será analizado el origen del término ONG, en el segundo, el uso de este término en el mundo, y finalmente, el significado que tiene actualmente en las diferentes organizaciones y países.

Palabras claves: Organizaciones No Gubernamentales, organizaciones sin fines de lucro, confusión.

Considerations on the creation of a unit for the administration of intellectual capital in the Cabimas nucleus, University of Zulia, Venezuela
Mercedes Ríos de M. & Migdalia Perozo B.

In the relationship between the universities and the productive sector, there are factors (both internal and external) which are not controlled by either sector involved and which are a potential threat to the durability of the relationship, especially for the practice of inserting students in the productive sector as part of their formation. Amongst the external factors, there are those of a political, economic or cultural nature. Nevertheless, the potential influence of the sectors directly involved suggests that both should carefully evaluate their respective postures with a view to promoting a process of strategic planning. These considerations are developed with a view to promoting a *Unit for the Administration of Intellectual Capital* in the Cabimas Nucleus of the University of Zulia, Venezuela.

Key words: University, productive sector, collaboration.

Evaluation of a learning organization questionnaire: adaptation, validity and reliability

Rómulo Mayorca, Jorge Ramírez, Orlando Viloria y José Flores

The aim of the present study was to evaluate the adaptation of *Dimensions of the Learning Organization Questionnaire* (DLOQ) to the Venezuelan context (Watkins and Marsick, 1997). In the English version, the instrument has 43 items that group the seven dimensions of the organizational learning in the organizations that effectively do learn: continuous learning, dialogue and inquiry, team learning, embedded system, system connection, empowerment and provide leadership. The sample was no probabilistic and was made up of 250 worker-students of Administration and Management, mainly in postgraduate studies, from three universities of the metropolitan area of Caracas. Once the instrument was translated into Spanish and adapted to the local context, a factorial analysis of its main components was applied, showing that the items are

integrated in only six of the theoretical dimensions. The general internal consistency evaluated through coefficient alpha was 0.80, and for the different dimensions it was between 0,71 and 0,86. The results suggest that the DLOQ has the validity and reliability to evaluate the dimensions of organizational learning in the organizations that learn in the Venezuelan context.

Key words: Organizational learning, Venezuelan workers, learning organization.

The human capital factor in determining university professors' salaries in Venezuela

Josefa Ramoni P., Giampaolo Orlandoni M., Surendra Prasad & Douglas Rivas

This study examines the system of promotions and salary rates in Venezuela's public universities, in an attempt to evaluate the role played by investments in human capital in determining promotions. Using the concept of Professorial Capability Index, introduced by Sinha et.al. (2007), this paper estimates the effect of tenure and academic formation on salaries, for the particular case of the University of The Andes, Mérida, Venezuela. Results suggest that universities do not promote human capital investment among their faculty members, beyond the minimum required for promotion. In addition, the current system of wage indexation based on so called parity rules, has proven incapable of preserving purchasing power of salaries, making them relatively less competitive.

Key words: Salaries, human capital models, professoral capability index.

The tripod for housing and habitat policy: economic, social and environmental policies

Alberto Lovera

This article is concerned to broach the problem of urban housing and habitat, taking into account that in Venezuela this accounts for almost 90% of the overall problem. It is argued that precisely this area of policy is suitable for integrating economic, social and environment policies. After examining the character of construction activity at the close of the twentieth century, it is argued that what is needed is a policy based on three types of initiative: the conservation and improvement of existing buildings, new buildings and the introduction or improvement of vital urban services.

Key words: Urban housing, urban habitat, policies, Venezuela.

The state and the policy of food supplies*Agustín Morales*

The main purpose of this study is to analyze the current situation and the prospects of the food distribution system as a result of the State participation in this system by the state firm called *MercaI*. As a mean to achieve this objective it was necessary to review, as a starting point, the historical situation in which this Venezuelan state firm appeared. Next, the transformations in that distribution system are studied and an interpretation of the *MercaI* phenomenon is proposed. Finally, the potential implications and prospects of the State participation in food distribution to urban areas are explained.

Key words: Venezuela, state, food supply, urban areas.

The aggressiveness symptom and the initiation experience amongst Caracas adolescents*Samuel Hurtado S.*

The installation of the cultural apparatus (cultural Oepidus) in the Venezuelan collective is to be explained on the basis of the category of 'authority'. How does a universal psychological category relate to its particular ethnological characteristics in the case of educated adolescents in Caracas? The author suggests that a central element to be taken into account is the 'matri-social' ethno-cultural tradition. The research project embraces adolescents in 7th, 8th and 9th grade in schools that have been chosen to ensure a representation of upper-, middle- and lower-class adolescents. It is expected to indicate that they share a common ethno-cultural structure in which the practice of attacking and abusing the 'other' is evidence of a notable insecurity of the ego.

Key words: Aggressiveness, authority, matri-sociability, willful personality, ethnography, incorrect behavior.

A methodology for confronting the security problem in the Central University of Venezuela*Cristina Mateo*

The author presents the experience of investigation-action in the Central University of Venezuela, with technologies applied in a series of workshops, designed to elaborate appropriate strategies for an integral security policy based on community participation in the defense of human rights. The technology used facilitated the presentation of the problem, the processing of the results and the

diffusion of the conclusions, while also activating communication mechanisms within the community and are thus to be recommended, especially for educative processes based on research and informatics.

Key words: Investigation-action, workshops, integral security, Central University of Venezuela.

Marriage, migration and gender. Latin american women in Spain

Graciela D. Sarrible

The number of marriages with foreigners (both male and female) is currently on the rise in Spain. In this paper, the author examines the marriages of Latin American women in Spain between 2000 and 2004. They are chosen more frequently by Spaniards than women from other continents. But marriages with men of the same origin are also increasing. Models of exogamy – Spaniard with American women- and endogamy –marriage between Latin Americans- have different rhythms, the first falling off and the second growing. The comparison between Latin American women and men is necessary in order to show contrasting gender behaviour. Marriages with people of other continents –other than Europe or America- are exceptional. In these cases, marriage is considered as a practical option, not an emotional one.

Key words: Marriage, migration, Latin America, Spain, gender.

Typology of collectors and contributors of urban real estate taxes in the Guanare Municipality, Portuguesa Federal State, Venezuela

Italo Magliocco & José Flores

The research resumed in this article examines the taxing of urban real estate in Guanare in 2004 and is of a descriptive nature. It was based on 26 employees from the Mayor's office and 375 contributors (a random sample from a universe of 6000). At the same time, the authors examined the income received on the basis of this tax between 1999 and 2003. The information was processed basically using multi-variant statistical techniques. The results indicate that Guanare does not collect sufficient taxes to respond to the necessities of the community and is thus dependent on resources from the national government. Two types of employees were identified, depending on their respective attitudes towards current and potential resources from this tax. At the same time, contributors were divided into 4 categories, according to their differing attitudes towards the tax and their confidence in the way in which the resources were administered.

Key words: Tax, urban real estate, contributors, typology, Guanare.

Considerations to be taken into account when delimiting indigenous territories

Filadelfo Morales, Suyín Márquez, Daniel Suárez & Javier Madrid

The constitution of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is one of the most advanced in the World in its recognition of the rights of its indigenous population. This article argues the urgent need to comply sincerely with the constitutional mandate to delimit the indigenous habitat, taking into account the following elements: its sacred history, toponomic, fitnomic and zoonomic guidelines, immemorial occupation patterns and the traditional and projected uses of natural resources.

Key Words: Indigenous Peoples, Delimitation Criteria, OIT Agreements, D8, United Nations' Declarations.

Production of a control board for the anonymous company of administration and electrical promotion (CADAPE)

María A. Cabeza, María E. Cabeza & Edwin Corredor

The aim of the present work is to collaborate with the CADAPE management in the execution of the *Project for Strengthening its Management*, by way of a first version of a control board which facilitates taking strategic, structural and operative decisions. To this end, CADAPE's current situation in relation to the processes of strategic planning and management control in the company are examined, in order to evaluate the prevailing culture of planning, control and follow-ups. As a result of this evaluation, a first version of the control board is offered, designed precisely to initiate a change in the prevailing organizational culture, by way of an instrument of management control, which allows it to evaluate the performance of all the processes in the company and to implant strategies capable of improving the quality of the electrical service at a national level.

Key words: CADAPE, planning, management control, indicators, control board.