Vocational designing and career counseling: Challenges and new horizons

Poverty, Disability, Immigration

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Vocational Designing and Career Counseling
Challenges and New Horizons

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In the Western countries the top 5% of families saw their real incomes increase 81%, whereas the bottom 20% experienced a 1% decline. (Glenn & Gordon, 2007)

Globally, today, the income of the 225 richest people equals that of the poorest 40%
About 800 million people do not have enough food available to lead normal, healthy, and active lives.

More than 850 million people are illiterate (most of them are women).

More than 1 billion people do not have access to clean water.

About 2.4 billion people do not enjoy basic health services.

Almost 325 million children do not attend school.

About 11 million children under five die every year due to causes that could be avoided.

About 36 million people are HIV/AIDS infected.

22% do not live in democratic regimes.

Conditions of absolute poverty characterize the life of 62% of people in Africa, 35% in Central-Southern America, and 25% in Asia (mostly in the south of the continent).

In the industrialized countries 100 million people live in poverty.
What is poverty?

World Development Report “Attacking Poverty”

“The now established view of poverty as encompassing not only low income and consumption but also low achievement in education, health, nutrition, and other areas of human development” (World Bank, 2001)
What is poverty?

Poverty is social exclusion

Poverty is a psychological state

0.5% of research in our field......
What is poverty?

**AN ECONOMIC PHENOMENON**

human capital

**A SOCIOLOGICAL PHENOMENON**

Cultural capital

**A PSYCHOLOGICAL PHENOMENON**

Social capital

(Anand & Lea, 2011; Coleman, 1988; Lin, 2001)
Poverty is a case of ‘bad citizenship’ and ‘bad management’
15% of the world’s population

Taken all together they would make up the third most populated nation after China and India

(World Health Organization, 2011)
**EMPLOYMENT RATES**

52.8% FOR MEN WITH DISABILITY COMPARED WITH 64.9% FOR NON-DISABLED MEN

19.6% FOR WOMEN WITH DISABILITY COMPARED AND 29.9% FOR NON-DISABLED WOMEN

(World Health Organization, 2011)
Disability is a disease, a ‘negative trait’

(World Health Organization, 2011)
special settings
segregating learning experiences
contacts with social personell
low social skills
low problem solving
low decisional competencies
inadequate and irrational beliefs
a poor concept of work

(Szymanski, 1999; Fabian & Liesener, 2005; Alston et al., 2002; Soresi et al., 2008)
Preventive and early vocational designing intervention in inclusive contexts

Training of practitioners
Involvement of parents, teachers and employers

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The highest numbers of migrants, about 56%, are concentrated in the developing countries, while the remaining 44% are distributed in the richest countries.
“migration can produce profound psychological distress among the most motivated and well prepared individuals and even in the most receptive circumstances” (Rumbaut, 1991, p. 56).