

ABSTRACTS

Ricardo Falomir, *The emergency of the ethnicity to the milenium end: Paradox or enigma?*

How can we explain the strength and vitality of political movements organized around ethnic boundaries through the world? A tentative answer is offered by going back to Weber's classic study "Class, status and party" and specifically, the ability of status groups to condensate under an ethnic identity, political and economic demands. It is also argued that ethnicity is but one of many sociological relevant criteria for ordering every day interaction of individuals and groups.

Sergio Pérez Cortés, *The individual, his body and the community.*

The article defends the philosophical thesis that the human body always appears within a certain experience (that is, within a web of reflective categories and practical acts) which makes possible and gives sense to its comprehension. Of course, we are not ignoring the presence of the body as a physical object, but we propose that what is fundamental is given in a series of practical acts and thought categories by means of which every corporeal experience is defined. For example, the experience of ascetics during the third century after Christ is used to illustrate how the body is, in reality, the support of a life project directed by the will. It is affirmed, then, that the body is the product of the experience of the self and of the other, and that type of experience is characteristic of every human being.

Sara María Lara Flores, *Sexism and Gender Identity.*

The article analyses the gender identity from an anthropological view, that is, as a historical and social process. It questions the basis of bi-categorical thinking which includes sex and gender in two exclusive categories: man/women. From this two categories sex and gender is considered universal when in fact, there are a great number of examples which show different views and experiences concerning sex and gender. The author establishes a notion of gender identity as a strategy of symbolic representation and resistance that opposes the social form and behavior imposed to the individual due to sexism which as in racism, is based in making the biological differences absolute, and turns gender into the motor for power of one sex against the other.

José Carlos Aguado/María Ana Portal, *Time, space and identity.*

By means of the analysis of the ideological dimension, this article proposes a theoretical reflection around the concept of identity, from which some methodological and empirical consequences are derived in order to consider the process of construction of social identities. The latter allows us to reconsider two central parameters for the study of identity: time and space. The latter are seen as the two basic ideological evidences by which culture forms and incorporates individuals, giving a social sense to their every day practices.

Castellanos, Alicia, *Racism and Ethnic Identity.*

Racism is an ideology that still exists as one of the forms of domination of the ethnic groups in México. The imposition of negative images and representations expressed in the social discourse and translated into discriminatory practices, within the different spaces of the social relations, continue to be part of the daily life of the Indian peoples. However, the studies on identity in our country have not sufficiently treated the role of racist identifications in the building of their identity. This work contributes with some empirical evidences as a basis to propose the analysis of the racist ideology and the way how these images are still functional to the system, by influencing the building or destruction of the ethnic national groups identity. The first part of the work enunciates the rising of racism in other national contexts, and shows that in Mexico there has been a historical continuity of this ideology, that today presents itself with new discourses and practices. On the light of certain aspects of the theoretical debate some of its manifestations in an ethnic region are presented. The second part exposes some ideas regarding methodological aspects to analyze ethnic identity within asymmetric relations.

Alejandro Figueroa Valenzuela, *Identity and persistent cultural strategies of the cahitas.*

In this article, a comparative analysis is given of the problem of the identity and the persistent cultural strategies of the Yaquis and the Mayos. We are treating of two ethnic groups with the same cultural affiliation and which, for this reason, besides a common language, present a great quantity of cultural similarities. However, the way in which they are inserted in the regional and national

context today is distinct. It is affirmed that although both possess persistent systems of identity, they have organized themselves in different and particular ways. In order to explain this difference, it is proposed that even though their persistent cultural strategies are found to be directly related through the way by the referents of the respective systems of identity are positively and negatively evaluated, such an evaluation is influenced by the objective context of the social, political and economic relations in which each ethnic group develops itself.

Maya Lorena Pérez, *The many faces of identity*.

This work consists in a partial analysis of some aspects of identity on the northern border of México. Its fundamental contribution is that it is based upon the results obtained from a statistical survey among a sampling of university students in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua. The theme was how the surveyed population perceived or considered the indigenous migrants who live in that city. From this, an attempt is made to drive an identifying perception of the migrant group.

Ma. Luisa Castro. *Ecological Identity*.

From a philosophical point of view the author presents the vital relationship between the natural environment, as a symbolic construction, and the process of social identity. The basic proposition of this paper is a holistic view of identity. This article opens the debate between the author and the anthropologist Antonio Machuca who discusses some of the concepts used in this work, pointing out a “mistical” understanding of this position.

Ana Paula de Teresa Ochoa, *The reforms of the constitutional article no. 27 and rural modernization*.

The reforms of the constitutional article no. 27 are part of a larger process that is directed toward the consolidation of a new rural society. This reform has multiple and complex consequences for diverse aspects of the reality of the Mexican countryside, the scope it will have in different social spheres is still difficult to ascertain. This essay discusses some implications of this reform for the economic reorganization of the “ejido” and its relation of the overall rural modernization program. The article begins with a brief diagnosis of agricultures economic status and continues emphasizing the requirements for productive reconversion pending the free trade agreement demands.