132 - LIFE HISTORY, WORK AND LIFE PROJECT

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INTRODUCTION

The labor organizations seek for maximum efficiency on its operations, according to the capitalist economic model, without considering the relationship which workers have with their activities, relationship that influences in worker's efficiency and well-being. However, work is initially a key role in human being's physical and emotional health, including being a condition for its humanization and existential realization (Antunes, 1995).

The work as a historical process is a factor that distinguish an individual from the others, gives identity and meaning to his life, allowing him to put an impression of himself in his own production. In addition, his work activity allows him to change the nature, the reality as a whole and fulfill his needs. Within the current system, work has been playing a role related to the social control of individuals, alienating and not only limiting the individual choices, but guiding them according to the economic system's needs (Catão, 2001).

During their career the human being will plan their life goals and pursue their desires. Another important role of work is the citizenship and the social projection that it provides in their interpersonal relationships. This is the reason why the profession becames to the worker, part of their social identity and subjectivity. (Mendes, Gusmão, Faro & Leite, 2005)

The existence of meaning at work activity is essential to what is produced and in the social representation aggregated to each function. Therefore, it is important to understand the meaning of the work activities for the individuals in actual society, considering their affection, cultural context, social function, organizational and satisfaction with their assignments. So, to achieve this understanding is necessary to considerate the social, historical and psychological aspects that guide the human being throughout their life and choices. (Dourado, Holanda, Silva & Bispo, 2009)

The psycho-socio-historical context drives people in their life projects construction. For example, in a situation of social exclusion and inequality, many individuals are involved to different kinds of profitable activities, looking for a better quality of life and social mobility. There is a constant fear of social exclusion, because this also affects the self-perception, so the financial stability is the priority. The consequences is the high demand of people looking for public contests, since the entry into university to employment in institutions.

According Guareschi (2005), the social exclusion process is establish when the individual can't provide the maintenance of the economic system, so this person will be discard. Sawaia (2006), says that the Marxist proposal first expose the problem of misery and servitude as a dialectic situation of inclusion/exclusion, that allow the system to adjust the excluded and their workforce into the process, through alienation as a way to organize and control the social order. Besides, social exclusion, according to Sawaia (2006) and Leal (2008), isn't just a form of domination, but a “non-attainment” of the basic rights of citizenship and in front of the political power. In addition, the society blame this excluded citizens for their conditions and they doesn't feel able to transform the reality. So is clear the influence of affection in human life, guiding their actions, beliefs and moves their existence.

Maturana (1997, apud in Boas, 2004), says that rational society belief that is possible separate emotions from certain aspects of individuals life, in most of the cases, understanding that emotion is something to disturb the human judgment. Ballone (2007), says that emotions are part of human conscience and will be organized through each experiences in life. Every memory, will always bring back the feelings lived each particular moment and consequently the formation of the subjective meanings. And these meanings will be develop in continuity with the cognitive development and will change in accordance to human life movements. Because meanings are social and historical phenomena, which becomes ideologies and other psychological functions. (Sawaia, 2006)

The Federal Highway Police as an institution don't offers emotional support enough, don't considering the stress faced by these workers, dealing with many responsibilities and risks, emotional and physical. Although this is considered a successful career, due to financial stability and social status. And these professionals despite all difficulties, finds pleasure in their activities and certainly during their retirement when their routines will be broken, the way these individuals will experience this moment will be defined by many implications in each life.

Work with these individuals through the reconstruction of their life projects, and analyze the intertwining of their life histories and the subjective meaning of their work activity, can be an useful tool, helping these individuals to feel free and able to take on new goals and dreams in their life. Staying active is very important, not exhaustive activities, but something that gives pleasure and possibilities to express themselves as human beings. Human life needs social interaction, people need to be linked to each other, every action affects everyone in a web of intercorporeality and intersubjectivity. (Catão, 2001 and Chaui, 2009)

GENERAL PURPOSE

The objective of this research was to evaluate the meaning of work elaborated by the police road, facing the choice of their profession.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Identify the entanglements between life histories and the career choices;
- Analyze possible actions of impact in the context of the police in front of the affections;
- Identify the feelings that intertwine labor relations, the quest for social mobility and quality of life.

METHODOLOGY

This study was performed with federal highway patrols in João Pessoa city, the capital of Paraíba state. It was necessary to maintain a first contat with the institution, once the contact was established, there was the availability of individuals to voluntarily participate in the research.

PARTICIPANTS

This study included 13 federal highway patrols, all actively exercising their functions. In the sample we found that 92.3% were men, 61.5% are aged 50 to 59 years, 84.6% were married and higher education complete, 84.6% of the sample have a salary range of R$ 6.000,00 to R$ 9.500,00 and most of them, 69.2%, have completed from 11 to 20 years of service.

INSTRUMENTS AND PRODUCERS

The data were obtained by applying a semi-structured questionnaire for social demografic information and draw a profile of participants. Later, with the characterization, were performed by an individual semi-structured interviwes, consisting of questions about the thematic in focus. On that occasion, it was explicit the research objectives, ensuring anonymity and confidentiality of the informations, indicating that those would be analyzing all together.

RESULTS

About the meanings of Life History and Work, the data shows two classes related to each other. “Survival and Social Mobility” & “Life History, Life Project and Work”.

Table I. Distribution of units of context elementary (UCE) of Life History, captured through interviews with Federal Highway Patrols.

Classes	Federal Highway Patrols UCE (f)	Interview %
Survival and Social Mobility	173	61.35%
Life History, Life Project and Work	109	38.65%

This table shows that the UCE to Survival and Social Mobility appears 61.35%, while Life History, Life Project and Work appears with 38.65% of significance.

SURVIVAL AND SOCIAL MOBILITY

These meanings were captured during the interviews about life history, their goals to the future, their search for a work activity, survival and quality of life. The motivations that led these workers to become a federal highway patrol and the difficulties faced to have a stable work, such as prejudice, risk of death and no time for themselves and family. Only to achieve a good social position and feel accepted, living financially independent, with dignity and make their dreams happen.

The class of Survival and Social mobility are especially related to the search for a job and satisfaction of basic needs of life in the capitalist system, to achieve dignity and autonomy, for personal and family's satisfaction and in front of the society. These are the main reasons that guided their career choice, this shows that this choices aren't to fulfillment a desire or personal abilities, but as way to achieve a good social status and financial power. This statements can be identified in the lines below:

Individual 5 - “(...), and shows up an opportunity to a contest, my mother said, a contest is going to happened to work at a bank, do you want apply? (…), and then you try something else in your educational area. And I had to submit myself, because if I didn't, she would thinks that her son didn't want to be anything in life (…).” (Age: 57; sex: male)

Individual 3 - “My life history, let's start from the beginning, I never think before to apply to a contest and become a policeman, at that time I applied to the contest, and I'm here (…), thank God I have a good job, the salary is rewarding and I find myself in a few days retired, God willing. And in my future I don't think about stop (…).” (Age: 45; sex: male)

Those individuals overcome many difficulties in market of work, with family and prejudice situations, only to achieve their life goals. Applied to different public contests without considered their personal dreams and skills, just thinking about reach a higher place in society hierarchy and in front of their family. Ended in unexpected contexts, but pleased to achieve the financial autonomy and desirable social role. Besides the workers organize their life around the profession, committed to the activity as a tool to consuming goods that they believe is the real reason to work for. And also leaving their life in stand by, just waiting for the retirement, when they will finally be able to achieve their dreams, feel pleasure, happiness and live their life. The individual 12, for example, brings his speech around the damage that inappropriate work conditions causes to his health conditions, but that don't convince him to stops the activities.

Individual 12 - “Back problems, due the work activity carried too much weight, before we had not a rescue service, was the same as we used to do, right? Wherever the victim were, we had to rescue and put in the car, the car was used to this kind of service too, not only as a patrol car, was also an ambulance, rescue, (…), then it causes me a hernia problem, then I had surgery, but wasn't successful, two medical errors happened, now I can't work on the roads, they gave me a officer position.” (Age: 52; sex: male)

However, there are, who feel pleasure in the work as in the case of individual 2, he feels like he is living a childhood dream, something so important do the structure of his personality that he is already able to retirement, but he decides continue to work there, because his profession is his identity.

Individual 2 - “That's why I ended up still working instead ask my retirement, because while I'm feeling good about my job, I would like to stay here and I'm here. I'm here because I like, it was my childhood dream. What really inspired me was a film The vigilant of the road, I was a kid, watching it on television and suddenly I found myself in the federal highway police, I'm here today.” (Age: 62; sex: male)

LIFE HISTORY, LIFE PROJECT AND WORK

The life history of these individuals directly influenced their choices. Most of them came from a context of need and search for financial autonomy. They built their futures with effort and dedication, studying, searching for opportunities in different places, etc. So that they could make a family, give them the best conditions and have freedom to enjoy the life.

The framing of a life project to this class became like a process of possibility of social inclusion, that empowered the

individuals to reach their goals. Searching for an ideal of life, personal growing, but essentially financial, justifying their efforts, accordingly to the value of their achievement, being noticed in the following speeches:

Subject 7 – "I used to live at the country with my parents that always encouraged me to study. At 9, I went to a boarding school because my parents could afford. At 17 I got married and at 18 I had my first pregnancy. I came to João Pessoa and studied Literature and Language at Universidade Federal da Paraíba." (age: 59; gender: female)

Subject 13 – "So, I guess since 7, I've always worked and searched for alternatives incomes, like greasing shoes, to have money to go on the weekends to the matinee, which was a kind of movies that we could enter. I used to sell some period products, like to Carnival, São João, and always kept me working" (age: 55; gender: male)

These expressed thoughts on the speeches are connected to the myth of ascendant social mobility, which capitalism is nursing to the individuals that live on the margins of society. They believe that they are there for their own burden and to reach an ascension depends on them to study and work, so that they will be rewarded with what they want. (Marcelino, Catão & Lima, 2009)

Besides, the life project elaborates itself before the relationships between the individual, the world and the personal context, the wanted situation to his future, considering the social and affective aspects and the inter-subjective relationships between the individuals, in the case of the interviewed, a context of social inequality and privations. The life project, to the human being, represents the opportunity of invent his own future, in search of feel fully happy and overcome the social inequalities. (Catão, 2001)

Once the part of policeman is assumed by these individuals, they begin to support the most varieties of adversities at the work, stress, give up of living together regularly with the family and the activities that more pleases them and bring more happiness. To them, these are onus of their activity in order to achieve their dreams, have a family, and feel independent, free to do what they wish.

In this class, work comes like a tool that "buys" pleasure, but on its own, is not a source of happiness to the workers. For this reason, some desire retirement, seeing it like a prize for their sacrifices, which are made since very young, even before join the Police. E even those who feel pleasure in the activity that they do, see the retirement as a chance to "live", enjoying a leisure and a feeling of freedom that the present work deprives them.

CONCLUSION

According to the observed, life history should be understood as an important tool towards the achievement of the reality subjective of the individuals and society. Consonant to this, the work shows up as an instrument for transform the actual reality in the desired reality. However, the price paid for such transformations can often reflect negatively on the professional life and to the society.

The many difficulties, accompanied by the lack of psychological support for these individuals, results in suffering. But this suffering is faced by reflections that results in actions, where the individuals aim to solve the problems, providing the possibilities to think about new life projects. Therefore the theoretical framework constructed with this study, provided a knowledge of the highway patrols relationship with their activities, and how their history and life project affects this whole process.

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LIFE HISTORY, WORK AND LIFE PROJECT
ABSTRACT

This research sought to explore the meaning of work that was modified throughout the mankind's history, from an activity of self identification and personal expression, to a way to consumerism wich is to capitalism a basic need. Suffocating the subjectivity and affections of individuals, promoting human exploration to the maintenance of a trained social unequal and unfair. The objective of this research was to evaluate the meanings produced by the police road before choosing their profession. Identify the entanglements between the life history, career choice and the feelings that permeate the work relationships. This study was performed with federal highway police in the city of João Pessoa / PB. The study included 13 federal highway polices, actively exercising their functions, in age from 50 to 59 years and with 11 to 20 years of service. The data were obtained by applying a semi-structured questionnaire for socio-demographic information and draw a profile of participants. The interviews were conducted individually with the use of a semi-structured questionnaire about the proposal. On the Meanings of Life History and Work, the data shows two interrelated classes: Class I. Survival and Social rise with 61.35% and Class II. Life History, Life Project and Liberty with 38.65%. Demonstrating that the choice of profession has the personal experience as fundamental to the direction of their professional career. In this study, we found that the history of life can be an important tool to achieve the reality, the subjectivity of individuals and society. As well, the many difficulties, accompanied by a lack of psychological support to these professionals and showing up a situation of suffering for these individuals.

KEY WORDS: Work, Life Project, exploration and survival.

HISTOIRE DE VIE, TRAVAIL ET PROJET DE VIE
RÉSUMÉ

Cette recherche visait à explorer le sens du travail qui a été modifié avec l'histoire de l'humanité, d'une identification des activités et d'expression personnelle a une forme de possibilitation d'un consumérisme basée sur le capitalisme comme un besoin de base, etouffant la subjetivité et les affections des individues, propiciant l'exploration humaine pour maintenir une societé inégaux et injuste. L'objectif de cette recherche était: évaluer la signification que les policiers d'autoroute formulent vis-à-vis leurs choix proféssionel; Identifier les relations entre les histoires de vie, le choix de carrière et les sentiments qui influent sur les relations de travail. Cette étude a été réalisée avec la police fédérale des autoroutes dans la ville de João Pessoa / PB. L'étude a inclus 13 policiers fédérales des routes, activement un exercice de leurs fonctions, dont l'âge varie de 50 à 59 ans et de 11 à 20 ans de service. Les données ont été obtenues en appliquant un questionnaire semi-ouvert pour le développement socio-démographique. Les entrevues ont été menées individuellement avec l'utilisation d'un questionnaire semi-structuré. Sur les significations de l'Histoire de la vie et de travail, les données montrent deux classes interdépendantes: la classe I. Survivance et Mobilité sociale et histoire de vie en 61,35%, la classe II. Projet de vie et Liberté en 38,65%. Ces resultats démontrent que le choix professionnel est basé sur les expériences de vie pour donner la direction de la carrière. Dans cette étude, nous avons constaté que l'histoire de la vie peut être un outil important pour atteindre la réalité subjective des individus et de la société. De même, les nombreuses difficultés, accompagné par un manque de soutien psychologique pour ces professionnels finissent montrant une situation de souffrance pour ces officiers.

MOTS CLÉS: travail, projet de vie, exploration et survivance.

HISTÓRIA DE VIDA, TRABAJO Y PROYECTOS DE VIDA
RESUMÉN

El significado del trabajo se há modificado con la historia de la humanidad, a paritr de la identificación de actividad, a una herramienta que apunta al capitalismo consumista como es predicada por la necesidad. El objetivo de esta investigación fue evaluar la importância preparada por el camino la policía antes de elegir su profesión. Identificar los enredos entre las historias de vida, elección de carrera y los sentimentos que impregnan las relaciones de trabajo. El estúdio se realizó con la policía federal de carreteras en la ciudad de João Pessoa/PB. Incluyó a 13 policias, El ejercicio activo de sus funciones, de edades comprendidas entre 50 a 59 años y 11 a 20 años de servicio. Los datos se obtuvieron mediante la aplicación de un cuestionario para El desarrollo sociodemográficos y de selección de los participantes. Las entrevistas fueron realizadas de forma individual con el uso de un cuestionario semi-estructurado, con preguntas sobre el tema en foco. En los significados de la historia de vida y de trabalho, los datos muestran dos clases relacionadas entre si: Clase I. La supervivência y la movilidad social 61,35%, Classe II. Proyecto de vida y la libertad 38,65%. Lo que demuestra que la elección de la profesión tiene una experiência personal como algo fundamental para la dirección de su carrera profesional, definida como las dificultades encontradas en este caso, la elección de una carrera. Encontramos que la historia de la vida puede ser una herramienta importante para lograr la realidad subjetiva de los indivíduos y la sociedad. Las numerosas dificultades, acompañado por la falta de apoyo psicológico para estos profesionales acaban muestrando una situación de sufrimiento para estos funcionários.

PALABRAS CLAVE: trabajo, proyectos de vida, la exploración y la supervivência

HISTÓRIA DE VIDA, TRABALHO E PROJETO DE VIDA
RESUMO:

Esta pesquisa, buscou explorar o sentido do trabalho que foi modificado com a história da humanidade, passando de uma atividade de identificação e expressão pessoal, para uma ferramenta voltada para o consumismo pregado pelo capitalismo enquanto necessidade básica. Sufocando a subjetividade e os afetos dos indivíduos, favorecendo a exploração humana para a manutenção de um formado social desigual e injusto. O objetivo desta pesquisa foi, avaliar os significados elaborados por policiais rodoviários diante da escolha de sua profissão. Identificar os entrelaçamentos entre a histórias de vida, a escolha da carreira e os afetos que permeiam as relações de trabalho. O presente estudo foi realizado com policiais rodoviários federais no Município de João Pessoa/PB. Participaram deste estudo 13 policiais rodoviários federais, exercendo ativamente suas funções, na faixa etária de 50 a 59 anos e com 11 à 20 anos de serviço. Os dados foram obtidos através da aplicação de um questionário semi-aberto para caracterização sócio-demográfica. As entrevistas foram realizadas individualmente, com a utilização de um questionário semi-estruturado. Sobre os Significados da História de Vida e Trabalho, os dados apontaram duas classes relacionadas entre si: Classe I. Sobrevivência e Ascensão Social 61.35% & Classe II. História de Vida, Projeto de vida e Liberdade 38.65%. Demonstrando que a escolha da profissão tem a vivencia pessoal como fundamental para o direcionamento de sua carreira profissional. Nesse trabalho foi possível identificar que, a história de vida pode ser uma importante ferramenta para alcançar a realidade subjetiva dos indivíduos e da sociedade. Bem como, as inúmeras dificuldades, acompanhadas pela falta de suporte psicológico para esses profissionais, acabam demonstrando uma situação de sofrimento para estes policiais.

PALAVRAS-CHAVES: Trabalho, Projeto de vida, exploração e sobrevivência.