

## *Preface*

This issue of *Interações. Sociedade e Novas Modernidades* brings together articles that address, from different theoretical and methodological frameworks, themes situated in the fields of mental health, education, work, juvenile justice, interpersonal relations and literary analysis of a psychoanalytic orientation. The texts focus on individual experiences, social trajectories, organisational dynamics, public policies and symbolic processes, drawing on quantitative, qualitative, document-based and systematic-review approaches. The studies are developed in distinct geographical and institutional contexts, with particular emphasis on Portugal and Brazil, bringing contemporary issues into dialogue with debates in the social sciences, the humanities and health.

The first article in this issue, by Carla Fonte and Marina Rocha, addresses parenthood as an experience of the adult life cycle with differentiated effects on mental health and well-being. The study compares participants with and without children, considering dimensions such as emotional, social and psychological well-being, as well as levels of anxiety, depression and stress. The research adopts a quantitative approach, with a sample of 473 participants distributed between parents and non-parents, and uses self-report instruments designed to assess psychological symptomatology and the mental-health continuum. The results indicate differences between the groups, namely higher levels of social well-being and lower levels of stress among participants who are parents. The analysis also considers sociodemographic variables, such as educational qualifications and employment status, allowing the authors to observe how the experience of parenthood interacts with individual, relational and contextual conditions.

Situating their analysis among aspirations, educational pathways and social conditions of origin, Luciano Barfknecht, Renato Koch Colomby and Leonardo Tonon examine the processes of labour-market integration and social mobility of graduates from technical courses integrated into secondary education at a Brazilian federal institution. The research rests on a qualitative approach based on semi-structured interviews, subsequently processed through content analysis. Drawing on the narratives collected, the article organises its analysis around dimensions such as trajectory and entry, challenges faced, impacts of technical training and future prospects. The

text examines the relationship between schooling, cultural capital, social capital and expectations of mobility, while also considering the familial, economic and territorial constraints that run through these young people's paths. Integrated technical training is situated within a field of tensions between the continuation of studies, entry into the labour market, the construction of autonomy and the persistence of social inequalities.

In the field of public policy and juvenile justice, Marta Carolina Oliveira Fonseca offers a critical analysis of the responses aimed at the social reintegration of young people subject to Educational Guardianship Measures (*Medidas Tutelares Educativas*) in Portugal. The article takes the Educational Guardianship Law (*Lei Tutelar Educativa*) as its point of reference and combines contributions from contemporary sociology, public policy and Social Work to discuss how the Portuguese model responds to the social, technological and cultural transformations affecting the processes of youth socialisation. The analysis, of a theoretical-documentary nature, traces the historical evolution of intervention with minors who commit acts classified as crimes, the guiding principles of the legislation and data on the application of the measures. The text also considers the challenges posed to professional intervention, institutional coordination and the adaptation of educational guardianship policies to changing youth realities, viewing social reintegration as a multidimensional process of inclusion, accountability and community participation.

The next article, by Méroli Saccardo dos Santos, Michel Barboza Malheiros, Vanessa Piovesan Rossato, Roger da Silva Wegner and Vania de Fátima Barros Estivalet, focuses on envy at work as an emotional phenomenon with implications for interpersonal relations, organisational behaviour and performance dynamics. Through a systematic review of the literature, the study seeks to map the research itineraries, conceptual structure and future directions associated with this topic. The analysis covers international publications between 1995 and 2024, using bibliometric procedures and thematic analysis, and identifies clusters related to the management of employees' emotions, abusive supervision, attachment theory and research contexts. The article also sets out a research agenda built around propositions that examine envy at work from different theoretical frameworks and organisational dimensions, situating the phenomenon within the field of people management and organisational behaviour.

João Victor Tavares Lemos, Bruno Chaves Correia-Lima and Luis Eduardo Brandão Paiva examine workplace friendships and their connection with work en-

gement. The study adopts a qualitative approach based on semi-structured interviews conducted with outsourced employees at a monitoring centre of a Brazilian public bank, using content analysis supported by the software ATLAS.ti. Drawing on the participants' experiences, the article examines how workplace friendship is built through everyday interaction and involves elements such as trust, reciprocity, affinity, communication and socio-emotional support. The analysis considers the dimensions of vigour, dedication and absorption of engagement, identifying ways in which interpersonal bonds may influence the energy mobilised for work, the attribution of meaning to tasks and processes of concentration. The text also addresses tensions associated with the duality of roles, emotional contagion, hierarchical relations and the boundary between personal and professional demands.

The articles section closes with Henrique Testa Vicente, José Martins and Carlos Farate, who propose a psychoanalytic reading of Edgar Allan Poe's short story *Ligeia*, taking as their analytical axis the Freudian concepts of Eros, Thanatos and the Ego Ideal. The research brings together elements of Poe's existential and literary trajectory, the narrative structure of the tale and selected psychoanalytic categories, with the aim of examining possible manifestations of the narrator's psychic functioning and his relationship with the figure of Lady Ligeia. The article undertakes a psychoanalytic content analysis of the narrative, centred on loss, traumatic repetition, the idealisation of the loved object and the phantasmatic restitution of the vanished female figure. The proposed reading considers how the death drive, narcissistic sublimation and the desire to overcome loss are organised within the symbolic economy of the tale, situating *Ligeia* as a literary space for the imaginary elaboration of absence, memory and the immortalisation of the lost object.

This issue concludes with a critical review, authored by Luís Cunha, of *The Art of Uncertainty: How to Navigate Chance, Ignorance, Risk and Luck*, by David Spiegelhalter (Penguin Books, 2024), which highlights the argument that uncertainty is a relation between subject, object, context and knowledge, rather than a purely subjective property or an objectively measurable feature of the world.

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