

## DEVELOPING SOCIALITY IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

Selected papers from the XIVth Biennial Conference of the European Personal Construct Association, University Of Edinburgh, Scotland, July, 2018

Editorial

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These 14 papers are based on presentations given at the 14<sup>th</sup> European PCP Conference which took place at the University of Edinburgh in July 2018. The theme of the conference was 'Developing sociality in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century'. It was a great success with over 100 delegates from 15 countries from both inside and outside Europe. The beautiful and cultured city was inspiring, not least because the founder of PCP, George A. Kelly had spent a year as an exchange student at Edinburgh University studying for a degree in Education in 1930, 88 years previously! Keynote speakers were Catriona Macaulay of the Scottish Government, who spoke of efforts to have public services designed through a shared, national participatory approach, including users and employees; Professor Michael Mascolo of Merrimack College, Massachusetts, gave an inspiring keynote on intersubjectivity and radical sociality, involving constructing dialogue across the divide of polarised positions.

This collection reflects the wide range of applicability of PCT and the *fertility of the theory, especially emerging from the professionals' points of view*. We start with two papers looking at the topic of choice, one in the context of love and romantic relationships from *Anna Celli* and *Giovanna Malangone*, colleagues in the Centre for Studies in Constructivist-oriented Cognitive Psychotherapy (CESIPc), Italy, together with *David Green's* reflection on Kelly's Choice Corollary which, unusually for psychology, asserts that human beings have free choice, still a radical idea in the largely deterministic discourse of most academic and applied psychology. This is followed by a paper presenting the use of creative approaches in the teaching of PCP by *Mas-*

*simo Giliberto, Chiara Lui* and *Elena Sagliocco*, colleagues from the Institute of Constructivist Psychology (ICP) in Padua, Italy.

The next four papers cover clinical matters and begin with *Clare Coppock's* account of using Sociality to tackle challenging behaviour and a study of expectations of people who wish to become adoptive or foster-parents by *Leonora Pechnikova, Andrey Ryzhov* and *Ekaterina Zhuykova*, from Moscow, Russian Federation (unfortunately, they were unable to attend the conference in person). This is followed by two psychotherapeutic case studies concerning working with a 'borderline' client and one involving an exploration of a client-therapist relationship in working with a case of a female victim of domestic violence, from *Nada Dimcović* of Serbia and *Massimo Giliberto* of Italy respectively.

The next three papers utilize constructivist methodology, the first continuing the theme of violence against women from *Jesús García-Martínez, M<sup>a</sup> Ángeles Payán-Bravo* and *Rafael Moreno-Rodríguez* of the University of Seville, Spain. We are pleased to include *Devi Jankowicz's* piece on using sociality and negotiation in repertory grid interviews. This is followed by *Mauro Martinelli's* study of a Kellian evaluation of individual performance of employees in public service in Veneto, Italy. The last four papers show how widely PCP can be applied, with one utilising PCP methodology to perceptions in Architecture by *Ahmed Agiel, Jon Lang* and *Peter Caputi* (UAE and Australia) two focussing on the body – *Francesca Del Rizzo* on sport, *John Fisher* on tattoos and finally one on using PCP to explore religious views from *Valentina Sosero* of the ICP, Padua.

This series of papers will be accompanied by a set of contributions from the conference to be published in two separate issues of the Journal of Constructivist Psychology, totalling 33 papers in all, which means that a pleasing proportion of delegates at the conference went on to publish, in line with a long tradition in PCP.

We would like to thank all the reviewers of these papers for their hard work: *Richard Bell, Viv Burr, Richard Butler, Richard Casebow, Emily Cooper, Nelarine Cornelius, Peter Cummins, Pam Denicolo, Miroslav Filip, John Fisher, David Green, Mark Heckman, Desley Hennesy, Devi Jankowicz, Devorah Kalekin-Fishman, Heather Moran, Clare Morris, Bernadette O'Sullivan, Jelena Pavlović, Nick Reed, Sally Robbins, Dusan Stojnov, Deborah Truneckova and Bill Warren.*

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#### **REFERENCE**

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