PHILOSOPHY

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"Other" and "Norm" in clinical discourse context

Concept "body" is relevant for social science. Its application allows to monitor not only changes in bodily practices, but also the interrelations between the "social" and the "biological", the power dynamics from social, cultural and ontological viewpoints. "Genealogy" and "critique", analitical procedures, described by M. Foucault, enable us to understand the role of discourse in the construction of social and cultural landscape as well as give us an opportunity to define the social groups, stigmatized potentially or de facto in the institutional discourses, functioning as power structures. Also, following his views we can understand how relative the concepts of normality and intolerance are, due to their contexts depending on a set of specific epistemological circumstances. Clinical discourse enables us to view the subject on its own, outside their subjectivity; communication as a pathological space, in which stigmatization, intolerance, deprivation, and isolation of the Other are the dominant strategies.

Key words: discourse, epistem, clinical discourse, norm, Other, genealogy, criticism.

January 21, 2020