

Typologies of Surviving Strategies in the Case of Women Excluded from the Labour Market

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Abstract:

Knowing different types of unemployed people in the area in which the public services providers operate is a rather difficult task which more often is seen as superficial. Our research entitled "Typologies of Surviving Strategies in the Case of Women Excluded from the Labor Market" aims to find out the specific needs of this feminine population which is facing real problems in their desire of valuing their own workforce on the present labor market.

The current study uses the method of sociological inquiry based on semistructured interview with a target of 140 subjects who have been selected at random from the Centre Development Region, namely from the counties of Alba, Cluj, SIBIU, Brasov and Hunedoara; of these, 105 subjects belong to the urban environment and 35 from the rural one.

We truly believe that we are in front of a social category as the highlighted features challenge us to a certain interpretation. And these are:

- All these women have a certain practice of their remuneration at work through which they proved their capacity of valid participation on the labor market, for a longer or shorter period of time;
- For all these women having lost their job represents losing their own income support;
- All of them feel the lost of their employee status as a threat of their own employment degradation and implicitly, of their own social status. In fact, these women feel what the British John Kenneth Galbraith stated ever since 1973 in his famous book "Economics and the Public Purpose", that they are excluded from payment and transformed into the so-called "criptoservants". Their status of housewife is being an imposed one and not a chosen one.
- Most of these women are well qualified, some holding even a BA diploma, an important part of them having more qualifications; therefore they constantly express their wish in being requalified and think that they are treated unfairly by society. Subjectively, they are facing also the feeling of social discrimination.
- All investigated women are searching for a stable placement available for at least 4-5 years.
- Most of them are having a low degree of trust in the authorities employment policy and a certain discontent concerning the employment legislation; "there is no protection for us" or "we belong to nobody" are standard statements.

In this respect we aim to achieve the following goals:

- Knowing the daily solutions of the women facing unemployment and of the ROMA women, as well, in order to substitute the lack of a job and the lack for stable supporting income.
- Identifying the ways of dealing with unemployment in the case of unemployed women and the Roma origin women.
- Identifying the abilities of finding a job or a sustainable solution for surviving.
- Identifying the way in which the recent unemployed women are projecting their future and the level of trust in fulfilling their expectations.

Our current research study identifies and describes 5 surviving strategies and suggests an inner sociological approach exploring the thoughts and feelings of women excluded from the labor market.

Keywords: surviving strategies, excluded women, roma women, labor market, unemployment.

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