

STANDPOINT

by **Ass. Prof. Dr. Romyana Borisova Milkova, PhD,**
Lecturer at UNSS – Sofia, Institute of Postgraduate Qualification

of a dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"
in the field of Higher Education 3. "Social, Economic and Legal Sciences"; Professional
Direction 3.2. "Psychology";

Doctoral Programme in Pedagogical and Developmental Psychology

Author: Magdalena Milkova Gereva - part-time PhD student at the Department of Psychology, at the Faculty of Pedagogy at Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"

Thesis Title: "Creative motivation, flourishing and psychological types in adults with occupation in the field of arts and culture"

PhD Supervisor: Associate Professor, Kirilka Simeonova Tagareva, PhD – Head of the Department of Psychology at the Faculty of Pedagogy of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"

1. General presentation of the procedure and the doctoral student

Magdalena Gereva has submitted all necessary documents and materials to the Faculty and the Department to which she is enrolled. They correspond to the requirements of the Law and the Regulations of PU "Paisiy Hilendarski": dissertation; abstract in Bulgarian and English languages; list of publications; autobiography. She has passed all required doctoral exams.

2. Relevance of the topic

The topic of the dissertation is extremely relevant for our time, both in theoretical and practical aspects, because it examines a very interesting problem. It is directly related to artists in adulthood and analyzes their activity and its results. 308 people between 20 and 65 years participated in the study. They live and/or work in the cities of Sofia and Plovdiv. The sample is divided into 4 groups, depending on the art they deal with: dancers; writers; musicians and singers and visual artists - painters, sculptors, conceptualists and photographers and film art.

3. Knowing the problem

I believe that Magdalena Gereva knows the studied problem very well. This is evident from the selected literature in Cyrillic and Latin, the reference to leading authors, the excellent structure of the dissertation, her skills and the fruitful analysis.

I cannot omit the presence of her scientific supervisor - Ass. Prof. Tagareva, PhD, who, with her experience, erudition and interests, led the doctoral student towards a successful final.

4. Research methodology

To implement the empirical research and subsequent verification of the hypotheses, the PhD student uses the following tools:

- The Myers Briggs Type Indicator MBTI® is based on Carl Jung's theory of psychological types and was first published in 1976. In its current form, the indicator includes 4 dichotomous pairs of attitudes and features shaping 16 personality profiles.
- Paul Torrance Creative Motivation Scale for adults (TM-B-2), containing 18 items (Torrance, E.P., 1990, Stoycheva, K., Shchetinski, D., Popova, K., 2006). The scale has been adapted and standardized for the Bulgarian population as the process goes through several phases. Its reliability and validity were investigated, as well as the influence of individual factors such as gender, age and education.
- Ed Diener's Flourishing Scale (Diener et al. 2010), including 8 statements that are rated using a 7-point Likert scale from 1 "strongly disagree" to 7 "strongly agree".

I believe that the chosen methodology is completely relevant to the dissertation's goals, tasks and the outlined hypothesis.

5. Characterization and evaluation of the dissertation work and contributions

The dissertation research is created and personally accomplished by Magdalena Gereva. The beginning was marked in 2018. It is distinguished by its own style, a neat thesaurus, correct reference and citation of leading local and foreign authors - classics and modern ones (philosophers, sociologists, psychologists, educators).

The points of contribution are clearly outlined and are the result of the analysis of the data obtained from the empirical study. 5 contributions of the dissertation are formulated. Particularly interesting and significant, in my opinion, is the fourth contribution - the creation of the elective course "Psychology of Art", which is offered to students of the "Psychology" major.

6. Evaluation of the publications and personal contribution of the PhD student

The published materials are directly related to the dissertation research. From the analysis of the style and language used by Magdalena Gereva, I found full correspondence of terminological apparatus, cited authors and individual conclusions in the publications and the dissertation.

7. Abstract

The abstract is 43 pages long and fully corresponds to the structure of the dissertation research. It contains all the necessary elements of scientific works of this kind. The author's publications related to the dissertation research are 6 in number, with one publication being co-authored and the other five being independent. They were published in renowned national publications, and through them Magdalena Gereva introduced the scientific community in our country to the topic of the dissertation, the research done and some of the results obtained.

8. Recommendations for future use of dissertation contributions and results

The work of Magdalena Gereva is complete and meets the scientific requirements. I am sure that it can be published as a monography, which will enrich our psychological literature and help artists discover some new moments for developing their creative impulses and achieving high artistic results. Bearing in mind the fact that the creative activity continues into

the old age, the work will be a serious contribution to the work and development of the artists in their search for various forms of creative expression and self-expression.

CONCLUSION

The dissertation presented contains scientific, research and applied results, which represent an original personal contribution to science and meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation and the relevant Regulations of PU "Paisiy Hilendarski".

The dissertation shows that Magdalena Milkova Gereva possesses in-depth theoretical knowledge and professional skills in scientific field 3. 2. "Psychology", demonstrating qualities and opportunities for independent conduct of scientific research.

Due to the above, I confidently give my positive assessment of the conducted research, presented above, from the peer-reviewed dissertation and abstract, the results achieved and the original contributions summarized.

I propose to the honorable Scientific Jury to award the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" to Magdalena Milkova Gereva, in the field of higher education 3."Social, Economic and Legal Sciences", Professional Direction 3.2. "Psychology", Doctoral Programme in Pedagogical and Developmental Psychology.

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Sofia

Prepared the standpoint:

(Ass. Prof., Dr. Rumyana Milkova)