

To the trajectory of forensic mad-houses; outlining its history and characteristics; discussing legal and technical aspects of treatment of the so-called “psychotic criminal”, and stressing the importance of network caring .

Articles of several national and international teaching, researching and assisting Institutions were selected by means of works from diversified áreas, such as, Anthropology, Medicine, Psychiatry, Psychology, Psychoanalysis and Law accomplished in some Brazilian States as well as in Italy.

In the first article, worked out from the opening speech of the 1st. International Symposium of Judiciary Mad-House and Mental Health which took place in the city of São Paulo in September of 2009, relations between mental health and actual tasks of democracy in Brazil with emphasis on the challenge which the custody and psychiatric treatment hospitals represent in the field of mental health under the “psychotic criminal” responsibility approach.

In the second article, also preferred in the Symposium, one finds the discussion about the history of forensic mad-houses in Brazil, pointing out its ambiguous and contradictory character.

In the third article one rescues the memory of actions towards the defense of patients confined in ancient forensic mad-houses in SP and nationwide, pointing out the insufficiency of CAPS quantity and of working therapeutic residencies in the country.

The fourth article shows an analysis about the short movie “In the Name of Reason” directed by Helvécio Ratton which portrays the tragedy experienced by inmates of Colônia de Barbacena Hospital in the State of Minas Gerais in 1979, shown at the 1st. International Symposium of Judiciary Mad-House and Mental Health and is considered as a landmark of the struggle and political reform of mental health in Brazil, leading to confrontation between the mad-house and the limits of the psychiatric rationality.

In the fifth article the aims and organization of the National Conference of Volunteers of Italian Justice are described, highlighting the fundamentals of volunteer work carried out in forensic mad-houses and in prisons, describing possibilities of actuation in these context, with distinction to the defense of effectiveness of alternate measures to prison which are being adopted in Italy.

In the sixth article, horror of reality found in mad-houses stands out, by discussing under the light of Law concepts as responsibility or unimputability, equality and difference – the psychotic criminal’s right of speech.

The seventh article broaches the ever-growing processes of “psychiatrization” directed to young agents of violation acts in SP. This article highlights the attending offered to agents of violation acts, bearers of personality and/or dangerousness perturbation, discussing therapeutic directrices and the need for a collective articulation between several social actors and Institutions.

The eighth article discusses the evolution and application of the concept of dangerousness from the viewpoint of Penal Law and Forensic Psychiatry.

The ninth article presents the critique of gears that sustain and cause the forensic mad-house to work,

proposing the assemblage of an intersectorial network in replacement to the mad-house. It points out that the necessary reformation and desirable should happen in the municipal district of the mental distress bearer, since the elements that will give support to the sociability network are there.

In the tenth article, also presented in the 1st. International Symposium of Judiciary Mad-House and Mental Health, starting from reports of clinical events accomplished at a custody and psychiatric treatment hospital, the author introduces reflections in the mental health and justice scope, highlighting the need for an ethics attitude when dealing with patients, aiming at repairing the flaws in the process of subjectivation that occurred in the past.

In the eleventh article one discusses the presupposed of unimputability and the hegemony of skill in the context of implantation of the National Health Plan in the Brazilian Penitentiary system.

In the twelfth article we have the report of the history and activities of the “Qorpo Santo Project”, the objective of which is to propose alternatives of uninternment and reinsertion in the community for the long-time interned patients in fulfilment of security measure in Porto Alegre city. It points out the judiciary patient’s recognition as a citizen, user of the health system and subject of rights.

The thirteenth article describes the experiment of PAILI (Integral Attention Program to the Psychotic Criminal) of Goiás State, detaching the favoring of inclusion of the psychotic criminal into the family and society, functioning as a successful experiment in rescue of the dignity of patients submitted to the security measure.

In the fourteenth article the author demonstrates that the sociability solutions can only be achieved when the mental distress bearer relies on a bureau of a complex and multifaceted program, describing report of experience on the Integral Attention Program to the Forensic Patient (PAI-PJ/TJMG). In this case one points out that the mean time between the admission of the forensic patient in this program and his exit from the judiciary system has been Five years with the ceasing of dangerousness confirmed by experts.

The fifteenth article describes the experience of psychiatric reformations, measures of humanization and the measures of de-hospitalization in Rio Grande do Sul State.

In the sixteenth article, the author places the de-institucionalization within a extensive significance to be attributed to the act of healing and recognizes two different paradigms: the caring and the healing by means of therapy, suggesting a critical reading on the unimputability and social dangerousness concept for the mentally ill, highlighting the Italy example.

In common, the articles emphasize the need for actions together to achieve the objectives of promoting mental health for the psychotic criminal, pointing out that it is neither an exclusive responsibility of the health sector nor the justice, security and social assistance sectors, but something that demands articulation, partnership of all. Good reading!

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