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## The Pedagogist and His Professional Practice

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### Abstract:

The law that, among other things, also establishes the figure of the professional pedagogist in Italy (law 205/2017, art. 1 594-601) has finally been approved by the Italian Parliament (20-27 December 2017): it provides for a qualification university. This has made up for a serious gap compared to the many more advanced countries in this regard. In this paper we summarize who the professional pedagogist is and what his professional profile is, what his professional practice techniques and procedures are and how he applies to his problems. Pedagogy is a social science, a science in the strict sense, and by its nature it is, at the same time, a social profession, whose origins refer to classical Greece and Latinity. The pedagogist is, appropriately, the top and top professional of the educational field. In this chapter we briefly examine some important examples of the rich and diversified "toolbox" that the pedagogist can use in his professional practice, in the context of a composite culture for a plurality of inputs of various disciplinary origins, concerning professional practice. Different social and psychological sciences make their contribution, understood and treated as "sciences of education /sciences de l'éducation".

**Key Words:** Pedagogist, social professions, professional pedagogy, Sozialpädagogik, helping relationship, sciences of education

### Introduction:

#### The legal recognition of the pedagogist in Italy:

In Italy too for a few years there is officially the professional figure of the pedagogist, who had been practicing for several decades without legal recognition (Orefice et al. 2011 2017, Iori 2018). The Italian Parliament approved definitively on 20-27 December 2017 the law 205, whose art. 1 commas 594-601 establishes the first discipline of this profession (with the professional educators), so finally aligning Italy with Europe at this specific regard, and giving to the pedagogical culture those professions recognized and ruled, who have an ancient history (Orefice 2017). The aim of this paper is to summarize some aspect of this profession, his conceptual and operative

"toolbox" and his specific professional practice, that we have experienced especially on couple and family problems (Crispiani, Crispiani e Giaconi, Blezza 2011 2018, Telleri).

#### A profession and a social science from the origins of Western civilisation:

The pedagogist is the professional of the highest and apical level expressed by the pedagogical culture and by the complex of educational subjects. Such a professional, like any other, is susceptible to specializations (social, school, family, and street, of third age, health, early and / or late childhood ... pedagogist), and to an hierarchical articulation (professional, chief, manager, direct manager pedagogist). The

pyramid with trainers and supervisors at the top is not yet planned; intrinsic reasons for pedagogy lead to prefer a supervision hypothesis in form of network. Pedagogy is a science and a profession of ancient history, about 2500 years in Western civilization, just like happened for medicine and surgery, and for jurisprudence. On the other hand, education is an essential human necessity as well as the health and the civil coexistence ruled by positive law. The historians of pedagogy, and those of thought, know how and why in certain periods the integral fulfilment of such a need may do not have had the necessity of a specific professional contribution, even though the education always was the subject of study and reflection. The profound change in the time of the pedagogical professions should be placed in relation to the different educational paradigms that prevailed in each historical period, just as was the case for the professional contribution of the jurists. The social role of doctor and surgeon, on the contrary, has had an history much more complex and was characterized by the constancy of a substantial presence and a strong social conspicuousness. John Dewey (1859-1952) defined the Sophists “the first body of professional educators in Europe”. And it is of great interest the context of this affirmation, a particular perspective of the relationship between pedagogy and philosophy. The earlier history of philosophy, developed by the Greeks in Asia Minor and Italy, so far as its range of topics is concerned, is mainly a chapter in the history of science rather than of philosophy as that word is understood to-day. It had nature for its subject and speculated as to how things are made and changed. Later the traveling teachers, known as the Sophists, began to apply the results and the methods of the natural philosophers to human conduct. When the Sophists [...] instructed the youth in virtue, the political arts, and the management of city and household, philosophy began to deal with the relation of the individual to the universal, to some comprehensive class, or to some group; the relation of man and nature, of tradition and reflection, of knowledge and action.

Can virtue, approved excellence in any line, be learned, they asked? What is learning? It has to do with knowledge. What, then, is knowledge? How is it achieved? Through the senses, or by apprenticeship in some form of doing, or by reason that has undergone a preliminary logical discipline? Since learning is coming to know, it involves a passage from ignorance to wisdom, from privation to fullness from defect to perfection, from non-being to being, in the Greek way of putting it.” (Dewey 1916, Chapter Twenty-four: Philosophy of Education) It should be borne in mind that in Dewey’s English the term “pedagogy” and derivatives was unused, compared to the term “education”, unlike for other western languages such as French, Italian and German; moreover, the English language is knowing its evolution also in this specific regard. And let us not forget that the fundamental work of Dewey of the 1897, collection of five essays, was entitled my pedagogic creed.

### **Human sciences in the XIX century, roots of corresponding professions in the century-next:**

Several professions that have gained great importance in the XX century have had their foundations in the context of the European world of German-speaking, or in its vicinity, in the previous century: particularly the professions of the psychological and psychoanalytic area, and the professions of sociological culture. The historical Modern Age had ended since the last decades of the ‘700 with the Enlightenment, the bourgeois revolutions, the industrial revolution and the deep social changes that have been achieved. It was starting a later historical age, which never found his technical denomination and was dominated by a particular *Bürgergeist* that had in the education an essential foundation and condition: an education carried out through the replication of models fixed precedentially, and aimed at the construction of the genders in an extremely polarized sense as required by the “conjugal” (Durkheim 1888 1921) or “nuclear” family (Le Play 1941) paradigm, a very important creation of that period. Such an educational investment was

very strong but not-specific, did not required the educator to have a particular pedagogical culture, but only the previous adherence to those principles, which legitimized the idea that it did not require the contribution of specific professionals except in very special cases (Blezza 2005). Die Wiener Kongress with the purported Restaurierung of the ancien régime appears to us an illusory attempt to let the clock of history go back reverse. The social, cultural and economic reality was deeply changed and began to evolve; it would immediately take frantic rhythms as they were never seen before. The exit from the Enlightenment was represented pedagogically by the fundamental figure of Johann H. Pestalozzi (1746-1827), pedagogist in the full sense since he has always been in direct and organic relationship with the reality of education, engaged in the agricultural colony and then for the orphans and as a teacher, but with an original theoretical synthesis that developed contextually, well documented by his scientific works. Two were the main pedagogists who continued his work: Friedrich Fröbel (1782-1852), who devoted himself to der Kindergarten, i.e. to the childhood school, and Johann F. Herbart (1776-1841) who theorized pedagogy as a synthesis of ethics and psychology, a few years (λόγος on η ψυχή) eMoreover, it's well known that all the sciences have been philosophies and have preserved one or more philosophies in their essence (Visalberghi. Part. 15-16). At that point, there were all the assumptions for the profession of pedagogist had a firm reference also in the same historical and cultural context of the Mitteleuropa, or on its borders and particularly in the Sozialpädagogik (Blezza 2010, part. pages 9-11). We are referring to the work of researchers pedagogists as Karl Mager (1810-1858), who first wrote of "sozial Pädagogik" in 1844 (in the "Pädagogische Revue" of which he was director from 1840 to 1848); he proposed this conceptuality as opposed to Individualpädagogik and alternatively to Collectivpädagogik; Friedrich A. W. Diesterweg (1790-1866), who dealt with the training of the teachers, and was critic of the notionism and

favourable to a school for the people, and who first of all developed the concept of learning by doing; and Paul Natorp (1854-1924) who used first the term compound in the essay entitled precisely Sozialpädagogik (the subtitle evoked a theory of the desires that come from the basis of the community established in the common culture, or Gemeinschaft (Natorp 1899; on the web we can find several other articles and short essays, by this author and by many others). We must bestow, or give back, a particular importance to the specifically pedagogical contribution of D. Émile Durkheim (1858-1917), let's not forget that the great scientist of the society was first a pedagogist and then one of the founders of sociology, as his academical and scientific history attests; he was also an Anthropologist and a researcher on religions. His pedagogical works were mostly gathered from articles and dispenses in posthumous volumes, from which it is evident, its importance; the Web makes the right homage to a great pedagogist and allows a specific study (Durkheim 1904/05 1918 and 1922). They were not, in short, minor works. This is not an isolated case: pedagogy is a science fully fledged, as the psychology or the sociology or psychoanalyse; and it is not just a philosophical science, or it hasn't been a philosophical science from a long time.

### **Professional pedagogy:**

We will call professional pedagogy (Blezza 2018) a particular branch of general pedagogy. This branch deals with the study, the proposal and the experimentation of principles, methods, techniques, procedures, specific vocabulary and the related organic arrangement for the specifically pedagogical professional practice. In a nutshell, everything that makes up a necessary condition for the pedagogical profession and for the community of professional pedagogists. The essential contribution of professional pedagogy is also indicated for initial and continuous training of intellectual professionals in the social and health sectors, in the school and in the psychological field. We still must widely explore the

contribution it can offer also to the professionalism of the university professors and researchers, regardless of the sector in which they are framed. As for general pedagogy, and for any branch of this social science, the development of professional pedagogy must be in an organic relationship with the reality object of studies and applications, and must maintain it, also in order to obtain the necessary experiential feedback. As is well known from the Epistemology of the XIX and XX centuries, this observance of the experience that will follow, and Feedback consequent, is a condition of the scientificity of the discourse, and therefore, *inter alia*, of intersubjective transferability of every assertion, which in education is indispensable, and of openness and respect of the person. These are also indispensable conditions in human culture, towards a continual, a-teleological cultural evolution, endless and without τέλος. Indeed, any idea, proposition, human creation, hypothesis, alternative we propose within the professional pedagogy too, as in the general pedagogy, is nevertheless subjected to what Pragmatists have taught us to call the “future experience” (Peirce, James, Dewey). Karl R. Popper (1902-1994) resumed this conceptuality, and it is appropriate to read fully its statute of das Abgrenzungskriterium, which is well-known: Nun wollen wir aber doch nur ein solches System als empirisch anerkennen, das einer Nachprüfung durch die “Erfahrung” fähig ist. Diese Überlegung legt den Gedanken nahe, als Abgrenzungskriterium nicht die Verifizierbarkeit, sondern die Falsifizierbarkeit des Systems vorzuschlagen; mit anderen Worten: Wir fordern zwar nicht, daß das System auf empirisch-methodischem Wege endgültig positiv ausgezeichnet werden kann, aber wir fordern, daß es die logische Form des Systems ermöglicht, dieses auf dem als Abgrenzungskriterium Wege der methodischen Nachprüfung negativ auszuzeichnen: Ein empirisch-wissenschaftliches System muß von der Erfahrung scheitern können.” (Popper 1935, 6, Falsifizierbarkeit als Abgrenzungskriterium) It follows that pedagogy is a science / Wissenschaft *stricto sensu*, also

according to this Abgrenzungskriterium: a social science, as it develops through a constant position of problems and a continuous attempt to solve them through human creativity, practiced respecting the rules of inner coherence and external consistency, and any other typical rule of science. Professional pedagogy is a branch in close relation, strongly synergic, with the branch of Sozialpädagogik, also for the historical reasons that have been mentioned. Particularly important was the rethinking of Popper about fifty years after the basic work just mentioned, following the formulation of Tichý’s theorem (Tichý 1974, Rosický 2004), on the question of verisimilitude (Bartley III 1983). We can’t speak of some form of progress in the evolution of scientific knowledge and, more generally, of human knowledge. This concept is consistent with today’s pedagogy, which, moreover, not long ago, recognizes in cultural evolution an a-teleological process which has no fixed direction but only one verse, that of the time’s arrow, that of the increase of global entropy, that of the “clock of history” whose clock-hands, as is known and as already said, “can’t go back”. Consistent with this message of evolution, we are well aware of Popper’s legacy that unended [is the] quest, and *alles Leben ist Problemlösen* (1994). Of things that happen, fundamental aim of the remaining pages of this paper will be to report synthetically and organically what has been studied, proposed and experienced in social and professional pedagogy as professional pedagogist. Parenthood decisions associated with these fundamental instances of sociality (Blezza 2011 2017 2018).

### **Abduction (ab-ductio, απαγωγή), from particular case to general casuistries:**

No professions exist without adequate competence on the theories and general cases that the professional has the task of treating: so, in the human physiology and pathology of the doctor surgeon, as for those of the animals of the veterinarian, as for the pharmacological principles of the pharmacist, or as for the science of constructions and for the other technical

disciplines of the architect and civil engineer, et coetera. The professional competence is highlighted in the specific modality in which the transition from the particular to the general is accomplished: the simplest and most immediate example is that of the medical doctor, who cures sick and not cures sicknesses, each case with its singular and unfailing peculiarities, but could not cure them if it does not bring back the clinical frame of each individual sick to the general case of the sickness, such as diagnosis, prognosis and therapy. This necessary human mediation, which does not give certainty, from the logical point of view doesn't constitute a tautology but a form studied since classic Greece and Latinity: it can be called abduction or retro-duction. It is one of the underlying concepts of the composite contribution to the Pragmatism of Charles S. Peirce (1839-1914), to whom we must the first theorization of science as fallibilism. But the speech is more general: most of the contributions, which are generally linked to the logic of the research of Popper and his students, we pedagogists owe them to pragmatism classic, that is to say several decades before (Peirce, James, Dewey). In the specific field of the social and professional pedagogy, a passage of great importance consists in helping the interlocutors to bring to the explicit what of their respective life projects is long been implicit, or otherwise not expressed and not discussed, as deemed not in need of any analysis, as taken for granted, as it is assumed tacit and perpetual acceptance on the part of some proximal person, particularly the partner, without any legitimacy.

### **Short notes from the professional practice:**

A typical casuistry for this specific matter concerns a profound asymmetry between the two partners of a couple in the "outside" investment, work social relations and public roles, and the "inside", family intimacy and the domestic home: one of the two partners who, at the moment of the contraction of the bond, is invested with wide-ranging "outside", and the other "inside", even in full harmony and in agreement. At a period not far

away, the first person was necessarily the male and the second one the female; and for this determination would be given natural causes and motives. Today there are increasing reciprocal choices. It is often noted that one of the two partners conceives this balance in diversity as definitive and pacifically accepted by the other one forever, and the other partner considers it only a temporary and conditioned step, for example, until the partner has achieved some social status or until the children have reached a certain age. At that point, that of the two partner who had accepted the pre-eminent investment "inside" begin to recapture its "outside" spaces, e.g. by rescuing its own study degrees and professional qualifications, opening free-trade or crafts or social cooperatives; to that, it happens that the other Partner refuses to rebalance the situation and considers this behaviour as a kind of breach of commitments, commitments that have never been taken. Something similar also happens in the sex life: certain sexual behaviours can be held for years, with one of the two partners who decides to accept them only provisionally, while the other believes that the acceptance is definitive, forever, and without any exception. For example, one of the two accepts contraceptive behaviours in the other considering them provisional, while the other has not posed any term for these practices. Often this is not discussed, after a long repetition of this sexual practice conditioned by a unilateral decision, until it is much more difficult to intervene if it is still possible. Even about fidelity, there are those who believe that the other partner accepts unquestionably his treacheries without in turn betray: in this case too, it would be the male towards the female in past times, today happens the reciprocal also. In this and in all the other examples of casuistries that could be brought these beliefs that emerge only after many years, sometimes after decades, in their destructive character for the couple, were given to tacitly accepted and for not requiring any discussion from the beginning of the life of that couple. We must add, for the professional experience that we have done, that where there is full and unreserved

opening on the part of both partners cases like these are all solvable with mutual satisfaction and without residue, even when the behaviours of the one or of the other or of both have taken breaking or even dramatic features. The mind goes immediately to the concept of ἡ μαιευτική (τέχνη), the second phase with ἡ εἰρωνεία of ο διάλογος as the great Athenian Σωκράτης proposed, an act like to give birth to what has matured inside the interlocutor also making him face the difficulties connected. That can be as painful as childbirth pains. This juxtaposition is correct, but with the important difference of not having any claim to reach some ἀλήθεια. On the other hand (here and elsewhere), this is accomplished without any involvement of the unconscious, being ideas perfectly conscious even if not discussed and implied or kept implicit, and without the slightest possibility that the professional intervention of the pedagogist can be confused with a form of therapy. It is, on the contrary, a helping relationship / relation d'aide that compared to the therapy is an exclusive alternative: not to cure someone or something, but to care of someone or something. In the Italian language there is an ambiguity that complicates things a lot: the word "cura" indicates both caring and curing. We are talking about a professional intervention with the word, but not a "therapy of the word": it's not a therapy. After pointing out all these concepts, we can outline some phases in logical and methodological sequence that effectively describe and scan the relevant professional practice of the pedagogist.

### **The problem and the problem posing:**

So much for the general features of a reflective experience. They are (i) perplexity, confusion, doubt, due to the fact that one is implicated in an incomplete situation whose full character is not yet determined; (ii) a conjectural anticipation—a tentative interpretation of the given elements, attributing to them a tendency to effect certain consequences; (iii) a careful survey (examination, inspection, exploration, analysis) of all attainable consideration which will define and clarify the

problem in hand; (iv) a consequent elaboration of the tentative hypothesis to make it more precise and more consistent, because squaring with a wider range of facts; (v) taking one stand upon the projected hypothesis as a plan of action which is applied to the existing state of affairs: doing something overtly to bring about the anticipated result, and thereby testing the hypothesis. It is the extent and accuracy of steps three and four which mark off a distinctive reflective experience from one on the trial and error plane. They make thinking itself into an experience. Nevertheless, we never get wholly beyond the trial and error situation. Our most elaborate and rationally consistent thought must be tried in the world and thereby tried out. And since it can never take into account all the connections, it can never cover with perfect accuracy all the consequences." (Dewey 1916, Chapter Eleven: Experience and Thinking). These words were written over a century ago. Living and operating "by problems" was already clearly ruled even through the consequent stages. For the continuation of the speech, we owe much to Popper regarding the philosophy of science (since that, we observe this choice carefully, the title of his cited work did not bear the adjective "wissenschaftliche", and this adjective will only appear in the English edition), although he preferred to call it "logic of research"; and to György Pólya (1887-1985), initially in the field of didactics of mathematics (1945 1962) and then also of the teaching of physics and natural sciences. Within the Logik der Forschung, the problem has its logical definition as a contradiction between established assertions, between two theories, or between a theory and an assertion describing a fact. Thus, the "problem" acquires an essential function for the evolution of the knowledge and for the human life: it is, in short, a positive factor, while the term has in the common language a negative inflection, as if we wanted a life without problems, that is a life impossible and without evolution. Latine loqui, error felix culpa. Compared to these positions, and compared to other ones also, are at least two are the changes that are proposed today in social and

professional pedagogy. A first change concerns the precise distinction that must be established between the situations of imbalance, contradiction, conflict, difficulties that the living being encounters in its interaction with the environment and with the other living ones, which we would call rather “problematic situations”, distinct from the “problem” properly said. Between the ones and the other there is the human decision, which is not automatic or mechanical, but on the contrary, is highly selective: only a very few problematic situations become problems, a small minority. We would call then “problem” the rationalization of a problematic situation, namely the positive, constructive reaction of the man who intends to overcome what he always meets, ordinarily, commonly of non-harmonic in his interaction with the environment. For instance, if a couple is in a highly problematic situation, we’ll ask to the partners: are you willing to make it a problem? The second change warns that the human reaction in posing the problem doesn’t have in itself any guarantee of success, as it would be for a naïvely optimistic reading of these messages, confused with simplistic assertions of some obscure and crude positivists in the XIX century. On the contrary, theories are human creations: all that is assumed and elaborated in an attempt to solve the problem is imperfect and fallible, like any human artefact. In other words: what do you do when you have posed a problem? The correct answer is not “I solve it”, but “I try to solve it”, “I devise a solution hypothesis”.

### **Theories and human creativity, creativity regulated:**

After the problem has been posed, or rather already in the act of the position of the problem, it is then involved the very high human faculty that is creativity. During about two centuries, this general faculty was considered under the romantic and idealistic ideal of “genius and lack-of-rules”. I.e. it was denied to almost all human persons. On the contrary, any social instance is constantly a continual source of problematic situations, the most important of which must be posed as a

problem and therefore is involved the practice of creativity. This creativity, in turn, is not unregulated, its practice is always ruled, and here too there would be heavy criticisms to address to the culture and education of the XIX and XX centuries. In a nutshell, and referring to other works for the appropriate insights, the hypotheses created, devised and proposed in an attempt to solve human problems must be subjected to certain orders of rules of method, at least if we speak on pedagogy, on social sciences and on social service, on human relationship interpersonal, on civil and democratic coexistence.

### **We synthesize these rule’s orders below.**

- Hypotheses are to be inserted into broader thought environments; otherwise they have neither Sinn, nor meaning / Bedeutung nor applicability. This applicability corresponds to die Anwendungsmöglichkeit, the level of professional practice for the pedagogist, neither theory nor praxis. This insertion is what one does with the scientific hypotheses which are inserted in laws, theories, branches and disciplines, both in the sciences of nature and in the sciences human, social and of culture (Human- Sozial- Geistes- Wirtschaftswissenschaften).
- These hypotheses, with the entire context in which they are inserted, must be subject to the rules of inner coherence i.e. the laws of logic; for education we must highlight the rule of non-contradiction. Both Pragmatists and Popper, and much of the epistemology of the XX century, indicated to employ the so-called “classical” logic, Aristotelian logic systematized in the Middle Ages by Thomism. The Pragmatists and, among them, the physician and psychologist William James (1842-1910) believed that this logic was inscribed in the anatomy and physiology of the human brain (1890); Popper instead adopted it because binary, that is because it’s the strongest one.

It comes sooner or later the moment in which it is necessary to test the advanced hypotheses,

together with the whole system of thought within which they was developed, and thus is consequently required the “external” coherence; as it was clear to the Pragmatists. Popper theorized rigorously that there is no inductive method; there is no possibility of making “true” a hypothesis for how many positive confirmations it receives from experience, while only one empirical falsification is sufficient to logically affect the hypotheses and the whole system in which it was inserted. It is the idea of science as fallibilism, an idea proposed by Peirce (vol. 1), decades before Popper made it the basic idea of the 1900s that we have seen like *Abgrenzungskriterium*. We could continue for a long time, but in summary we conclude this paper with the application to human things of an authentic historical and critical spirit, whereby every human idea, by the fact that it is human, is subject to becoming historical, which does not represent an incoherence, and it is always susceptible to criticism from those who advanced it and from anyone else. Ideas are for man, and never man for ideas. In family too, or better starting right from the couple and the family. We respect, and we can also admire, those who dedicate their lives to an idea, even when it is observed that the maintenance to the deeper end of that idea ends up butting or with the rules of inner coherence, and here we are at the Socratic *εἰρωνεία*, or with those of external coherence, reality contrasts falsifications of fact to those convictions, and in any case are violated in principle the rules of human historicity and of criticism. What is not to be respected, and indeed whose condemnation does not allow exceptions, is any behaviour, in any place or entity, that tends to enslave other people or person to an idea, especially people who, for some reason, are in a situation of less strength or dependence: children compared to parents, elderly and disabled compared to people in the fullness of their resources, those who ask for help, those who need assistance, and so on. Here we must pay close attention, because in most cases the violation of this fundamental rule takes on lies and noble

appearances: it's commonly replied that some people are enslaved to the ideas of others “for their own higher interest”, “for the good of the family” or “to save the family”, “for the good of the company”, “for the work of everyone”, “for the good of the players before the team”, and so continuing, in short for a non-personal but more general, superior good or interest. We must not fall into any of these pitfalls or other comparable analogues, the answer can only be negative: the human person can never be made an instrument by others for any idea, however high the nobility and human valence are alleged about that idea. Synthetically, the person can never be made an instrument for any purpose and for any condition: it is always and only a purpose to itself.

### **The sciences of education / les sciences de l'éducation. And particularly psychology:**

The composite character of the general pedagogy / allgemeine Pädagogik, and therefore also of the social and professional pedagogy, allows to transpose within these domains the contributions coming from other disciplinary fields and from authors pertaining to them that they would never consider themselves pedagogists; obviously, it must be done after reprocessing these contributions in order to integrate them with the complex of pedagogical-general and pedagogical-social and professional culture, and after turning to the specific aims of education that are not the aims of all those disciplines, or of others yet (Mialaret. Visalberghi Massa 1990)). A prologue could be the study of the foundation of scientific psychology, of great value also methodological and historical (Wundt, Vogt). We could and should begin with Sigmund Freud (1856-1939) and psychoanalysis, except that for us pedagogists the unconscious is a precluded domain: precluded by the awareness of not having the skills to enter the unconscious, before the laws that protect the exercise of certain professions or therapeutic arts, and anyway by the fact that we are not therapists. We could continue talking about other Psychoanalysts, including the founders of other fundamental schools of psychoanalysis: Carl

Gustav Jung (1875-1961), Alfred Adler (1870-1937), Jacques Lacan (1901-1981). Erich Fromm (1900-1980) offers to our profession a very important contribution, for example with the concepts of “paternal” love and “maternal” love that should be balanced and integrated, without which opens the way to one side for a whole series of pathologies that are not our competence, on the other for a whole series of educational shortcomings that instead directly involves our competences (1956). But many others are the contributions that come to us from this important social psychologist, as, moreover, from the whole Frankfurter Schule to which he too referred: from criticism to civilisation and contemporary society (1941), to the study of aggression, the destructiveness and the necrophilia (1972, 1983), until the discourse on the modalities of having and being (1976). We understand how fundamental the contribution of Carl Rogers is (1902-1987), where we consider carefully also in this case that our competences are not therapeutic. We practice the helping relationship and, so working, we have very much to learn from him. Instead, we can fully employ the conceptual tools proposed by Viktor Frankl (1905-1997), namely the search for Lebenssin, die Dereflexion, der paradoxen Intention and der gemeinsame Nenner. In a similar way, it can be employed by the professional pedagogist das Autogene Training according to Jurgen H. Schultz (1884-1970) in its fullness, especially considering die Formel, the original fundamental propositional formula, and its subsequent literal translation "(Ich bin) ganz ruhig [ruhe]" and it is used with the appropriate adaptations and reformulations, rather than as a simple relaxation technique. For specifically pedagogical reasons and purposes we can propose an alternative propositional formula designed for the purpose, for example for maximum effort in study, work, sports, other activities, sexuality; in the search for maximum concentration; to overcome personal fears and obstacles; for release from addictions and risky behavior; and in practice in almost all the purposes that could be hypothesized in a pedagogical intervention as

such. We understand that in 2500 years and more of history of pedagogy we have to analytically collect a huge collection of ideas, conceptual and operational tools, procedures, lexical forms for the profession of pedagogist. We could start with the Greeks, but without neglecting the Latins, beginning with their philosophies and literatures but not neglecting the ancient science and technique, first of all as methodology of interaction with the natural reality and with the social reality. These methodologies are widely misunderstood today, but they can teach us a lot with a direct access two millennia and more before Galileo, Gilbert, modern science i.e. the science of the modern Age. On the other hand, Frankl himself considered direct descendants of the Socratic dialogue not only his own logoanalytic technique, but all the psychoanalysis and any form of therapy by the word; to that same ancient classical source we draw us with the pedagogical interlocution (Blezza 2011 2018) and other forms of clinical colloquium (Crispiani 2001), as in the rest draw to the Greek-classical sources for a whole other complex of essential instruments and tools, from the ῥητορεία to the πολιτεία, from γνῶθι σεαυτόν to the sense of the human limit with the condemnation of the ὕβρις, and away continuing for a long time. The important choice, as has been said, is to not scotomize all the other immense contributions that we can derive from classical Latinity as well as from Greece, and the scientific and technical contributions in relation to the philosophical and literary ones, moreover, thus avoiding a rift in the classical culture that has no historical or scientific legitimacy. However, what has been summarized and exemplified here can give a sufficiently substantial and organic idea of the profession of pedagogist and of its culture to wide spectre, which we could also represent with the metaphor of a “toolbox” of a variety and richness that amazes even the most experienced scientists and professionals in the specific field of social sciences and professions

## The evolution of discourse in professional practice:

The undeniably nature of pedagogy as an empirical science, which must be developed in an organic relationship with the educational experience and with the reality object of study and applications, is coherent with the etymology of the term designating this social science of man. It's a Latin etymon, straddling the Middle Age and the Modern Age: paedagogia as "paedagogi ars", the art of taking charge, of caring, the education in people who must be educated as social subjects. The fact that, then, the Latin word "paedagogus" was a transposition of the greek term παιδαγωγός, and that this in turn derives from the classical Greek παῖς - παῖδος and ἄγω, it's a different discourse. There existed in the classical Greek also the word παιδαγωγία which did not designate a science or a λόγος, but the activity of that particular subject who was instructed by the father to accompany the young people, the sons, on the social occasions more favourable for their education which were offered by the πόλις, especially at its ἀγορά, place of primary sociality. Anymore, it is just like in a relay racing, we must hand off the baton transition to those who have the task of continuing the discourse in research and professional practice. Both have no end. Not by chance, we find this suffix "-agogy" only in pedagogy, and in its subsidiary disciplines "andragogy" and "geragogy", these lasts are words rarely used in Italian and in other languages, a real ἄπαξ λεγόμενον among the denominations of sciences and professional disciplines. As known, the main choice goes for the suffix "-logy". The doctors surgeons for their specialties prefer the suffix "-iatry" i.e. therapy, even if they don't miss the suffixes "-logy" (audiology, gynaecology, cardiology, ...) and other different choices still (optics, radio diagnostics, childcare, obstetrics, ...) as well as various compound words and phrases referring to surgery. This speech is of particular interest, because it explains how pedagogy cannot be a simple "-logy" i.e. a speech without commitment and application, and in no case is it a "-iatry" i.e. a

therapy. Instead of a conclusion, researches and professions continue. As for any empirical science of nature, or for any social science of culture, no study can close with a conclusion, but it must pass the discourse to the live of the "future experience", the professional pedagogical practice. For this author, in our case a professional practice experience, of a helping relationship towards subjects for being in a couple or in a family in problematic situations (Bleza 2011 2017 2018).

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