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EVALUATION OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS

by Mgr. Alžběta Wolfová

Personally, I consider it a lucky coincidence that the dissertation of Mgr. Naděžda Wolfová came to me in the period while I was preparing my first autoethnography. I find the thesis highly inspirational as it contains a comprehensive theoretical introduction, which provides to the reader a deep insight into the studied topic. I completely agree with the applied terminology that is explained clearly and without confusions. I also appreciate an overview of body theories included in the Chapter 2. In my opinion, it teaches us to be highly sensitive to our body expressions and to decode them in wider biosocial perspective (i.e., how far we can go in our actions). The thesis is very well elaborated, and I would surely recommend its publishing as a monograph, both for the topic it comprises, and the method applied. For this reason, there are formatting errors, typos and grammar mistakes mentioned below, so the author can improve the manuscript later:

- p. 4, paragraph 1: interchanged references (ibid.) and (ibid., 32) and quotation marks missing
- p. 7, paragraph 2: duplicate reference Hassler 1893
- p. 7, paragraph 3: typo before the reference
- p. 8, note 18: duplicate reference
- p. 10, paragraph 3: biomedicallover (typo, joint words)
- p. 11, paragraph 3: ibid (typo, dot missing)
- p. 11, paragraph 4: duplicate reference of Smith (2020)
- p. 12, note 28: typo
- p. 13, paragraph 2: ,P homeopathic (typo)
- p. 13, note 35: grammar mistake in punctuation (space missing), error in the in-text reference
- p. 14, paragraph 2: typo in punctuation (comma)
- p. 15, note 43: space missing before "Ironically"
- p. 16, paragraph 2: grammar mistake in articles in the phrase "Here I would like to note that official the statement of the Czech Medical Chamber towards non-conventional medicines starts with their concern over this exact term"
- p. 18, note 45: typo and grammar mistake in punctuation
- p. 23, paragraph 2: duplicate phrase "makes behaviour the key pathway towards maintaining the un/true self"

- p. 26, paragraph 2: grammar mistake in the punctuation behind the reference (Heelas and Woodhead 2005, 4–5)
- p. 26, paragraph 4: redundant space at the beginning of the paragraph
- p. 33, paragraph 1: grammar mistake (does not works)
- p. 33, paragraph 5: duplicate reference
- p. 34, paragraph 2: grammar mistake in articles
- p. 41, paragraph 1: typo + space missing in “the filed(site)” (i.e., field, site)
- p. 43, paragraph 4: a typo in “d eat” + incomplete sentence at the end of the paragraph
- p. 45, paragraph 1: mistake in the in-text citation
- p. 45, paragraph 3: repetitive structure “I again had again”
- p. 48, paragraph 3: sg. to pl. in “a self-proclaimed practitioner”
- p. 48, paragraph 4: in my opinion, the reference to Marcus (1995) should be included at the end of the paragraph
- p. 52, paragraph 4: double space in Leon Anderson
- p. 58, paragraph 3: grammar mistake (dot missing behind (Haraway 1988, 593)
- p. 60, paragraph 7: space missing between “once” and a quotation mark; formatting of paragraphs containing fieldnotes differs in this page, which is confusing
- p. 61, paragraph 1: grammar mistake (I was x it made me)
- p. 64, footnotes: grammar inconsistency (Googling x googling)
- p. 66, paragraph 1: fieldnote formatting missing (repeats in following pages too)
- p. 67, paragraph 3: dot missing behind “categorization”
- p. 82, paragraph 1: typo (“had Josef had”)
- p. 85, paragraph 3: mistake in quotation marks
- p. 98, paragraph 1: small first letter in the sentence “No microscope...”
- p. 103, paragraph 1: extra space before the first character
- p. 105, paragraph 1: “The only difference in Ayurvedic practice is that self-care is considered individualized.” Is it in biomedicine different according to your opinion?
- p. 105, note 88: repetition of the same sentences
- p. 106, paragraph 1: redundant space in “low-calorie” and a space missing after the comma in “Happily, she tells me”
- p. 111, paragraph 1: suggest x suggested; in my opinion, it would be more appropriate to speak about “recovery” than healing in this paragraph.
- p. 112, paragraph 3: “Geertz names a third situation” is followed by the incomplete structure
- p. 123, paragraph 4: in my opinion, the reference should always go at the beginning or end of the phrase (cf. Sointu 2006).
- p. 144, paragraph 1: typo in brackets incorrectly separated between two lines in case of “(well-)being”
- p. 145, paragraph 4: space missing between a dot and “So, I feel”

p. 146, paragraph 3: duplicate reference of Ingold
p. 152, paragraph 2: redundant space behind (Foucault 1995, 138)

Comments:

In my opinion, the subtitle of this dissertation does not reflect precisely the applied method (i.e., autoethnography).

The numbering of notes should be always included behind punctuation (cf. p. 12 or 20).

Multiple references should be organized in the chronological order (cf. p. 22, paragraph 2).

In my experience, better self-control and self-awareness proclaimed by CAM practitioners are rather sociopolitical constructs that make their medical system viable than categories securing it is inherently good (cf. p. 26, paragraph 5 and following).

In terms of “healing conversion”, I would like to recommend author to revise the works of Kelly Bulkeley.

Websites should be referenced in the same manner as other sources (i.e., according to the selected citation style).

In the context of the first section, I would like to ask the following:

1. Would it be possible to interpret your personal experience in terms of “healing conversion”?
2. To which document refers the page 234 in the page 11, paragraph 3?
3. How is the hybridity of Ayurveda approached by its practitioners? Are there any legal restrictions on medical preparations used within this system in the Czech Republic?
4. In which way are Ayurveda medications commercialized in the Czech Republic?
5. How is pain understood and explained by Ayurveda practitioners?

Without any doubt, I recommend this doctoral thesis for the defense.



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