

## PREFACE

The final issue of the journal “Vestnik of St. Petersburg University. Psychology” 2023 contains articles on a variety of topics and reflects a wide range of research in modern psychological science.

The article by D. A. Khoroshilov “Individualization and psychologization of modern society as factors of weakening social ties” which is opening fourth issue of our journal offers an original view on the development of psychological science and practice and its widespread penetration into the everyday life of modern society. According to the author, these processes relate to the context and contradictions of the time of modernism and reflect the trend of psychologization of society. This is interpreted not just as a growing interest in psychological practices in society, the psychology of self-development and self-realization, but as a tendency for these kinds to dominate in a personal orientation, human’s fixation on his own inner world. It gives rise to a “psychologized” view of the world of reality, when the surrounding world and existing problems are explained with the help of psychological concepts and ideas. The “psychologization” of society, which Khoroshilov writes about, in his opinion, also enhances the individualization of society, which, while ensuring the freedom of self-expression of the individual, at the same time carries the danger of weakening social ties.

The author’s view at the place of psychology in the mentality of a modern person encourages thinking about the social responsibility of the professional psychological community, which is especially important today, when there are lively discussions about the professional activities of psychologists, the requirements for their competence and ethics.

The next article in the issue — “The study of subjective and personal characteristics in line with the system-subject approach” by N. S. Pavlova — is devoted to the category of the subject and the subjective approach. This topic does not leave the agenda of domestic psychology, which indicates its continued relevance and heuristic potential. The article traces the development of ideas about the subject in the works of S. L. Rubinshtein, which are designated as a subject-activity approach, their comprehension and continuation in the works of A. V. Brushlinsky and further in the works of E. A. Sergienko, representing the system-subjective approach. According to the author, the latter is a new round in the development of the psychology of the subject as an independent field of Russian psychological science. Pavlova’s article allows readers to get a holistic view of the history of the development of ideas related to the category of the subject, and the current state of development of this topic.

Article written by N. A. Rudnova and D. S. Kornienko “A contextual approach to the characteristics of a preschooler’s temperament: The role of the educational environment” is a review of studies reflecting the influence of environmental parameters on the manifestation of temperamental characteristics of children. Traditionally, these features refer to individual properties and their manifestation is considered from the point of view of the properties of the nervous system and psychophysiological indicators of the development of the child. In their work, the authors focus on the characteristics of the interaction of

children with the surrounding social environment, in particular with the characteristics of the educational environment.

Modern psychology is characterized by a critical approach to the decontextualization of ongoing research, to the description of psychological phenomenology outside the context of its emergence and manifestation. In this regard, the article by Rudnova and Kornienko allows us to evaluate the possibilities of considering contextual factors in the description of classical psychological phenomena.

The section on empirical and experimental studies is opened with a collective article by E. Yu. Korjova, P. Qin, E. K. Veselova and M. Ya. Dvoretzkaya “The structure of basic life orientations: Ethno-cultural aspect (using the example of the Chinese version of the Subject-Object Orientations Questionnaire)”. The article describes the experience of adapting the Questionnaire in Chinese and the research carried out using this tool. As a result of the adaptation of the questionnaire to the Chinese-language version, its original version has undergone significant changes, corresponding to the uniqueness of Chinese culture. The data obtained made it possible to describe her basic life orientations characteristic — the courage to challenge difficulties, the desire for inner harmony, the clarity of purpose in life. Comparison with them of the results of a study of the basic orientations of Russian youth allows us to see and better evaluate their features.

In the next publication, the work of L. A. Golovey and O. S. Galasheva “The role of social support and resilience in the socio-psychological adaptation of male and female adolescents” — the role of the resources of the social environment (situational factors) and internal resources (personal factors) in the success of the socio-psychological adaptation of adolescents is considered. The empirical study conducted by the authors revealed gender differences in the structure of indicators of socio-psychological adaptation, and also showed that a number of components of perceived social support and resilience can be considered as predictors of its success.

The article by V. R. Orestova and S. E. Zolotareva “Features of subjective well-being and coping strategies in women during periods of soft and hard social transitivity” is devoted to the influence of the social context of existence, which is described in terms of a state of variability, instability, turbulence, often referred to as transitivity. Transitivity can have different degrees of severity, just as people’s perception of their life situation differs, while it is the subjective assessment of life circumstances and conditions that, as shown in many studies, is decisive in coping with the difficulties of life. The results obtained by the authors in their empirical study confirm this. At the same time, they managed to show the connection between the phenomenology of a person’s experience of social transitivity and the degree of its severity — “hardness” or “softness” of the situation.

The next publication of the issue is an article by M. I. Levintsova and N. L. Pleshkova “Perceptions of childhood experiences and characteristics of shame in adults” — is devoted to a topic that has not waned attention throughout the history of psychology — the topic of the influence of early experience on the psychological characteristics of adults. For their research within the framework of this topic, the authors chose the problem of experiencing shame by adults. The phenomenon of shame often becomes a subject of discussion in the humanities literature, including because of its sociocultural foundations. Often there is an ambiguous effect of shame on a person’s social behavior, which sometimes results from a confusion of the concepts of shame and guilt, which are believed to lead to different experiences: guilt can activate, while shame has an inhibitory effect. Based on the results of their study, the authors provide evidence that adverse childhood experiences may contribute to

the development of post-traumatic stress as a response to situations of shame. In turn, this gives rise to reactions of avoiding social interaction as distrust of social support.

In an article by V.M. Sorokin, L.A. Darinskaia and G.I. Molodtsova “Features of the creative imagination of primary school age children with visual impairment” the nature of the impact of visual impairment on the formation of imagination in children is discussed. Despite the obvious significance of this topic, the answer to this question is ambiguous, and arguments can be made both in favor of the negative nature of this influence, and, on the contrary, in favor of a kind of stimulating effect of visual impairment on the development of imagination in children. In an empirical study conducted by the authors, different characteristics of the imagination of visually impaired and normally seeing children were compared. The obtained data testify more likely to the negative impact of visual impairment on the development of the creative imagination of children of primary school age. An important positive result of the study was the confirmation of the potential for the development of imagination in children, which was revealed in the process of a correctional developmental experiment.

The next article in the issue was also written by a team of authors — V.A. Gershkovich, R. V. Tikhonov, E. E. Bystrova, O. V. Lvova “The influence of confabulations about the reasons for the choice on the formation of false memories”. In studies devoted to cognitive phenomena, not the last place is occupied by the topic of false memories, their nature and the laws of occurrence. In particular, as noted in the article, it was found that after justifying a choice that a person did not actually make, he tends to change his memories, “fitting” them to the justifications put forward by him. In their study, the authors of the article compare two explanations for the effect of the mnemonic aftereffect of choice blindness — explanations from the point of view of the phenomenon of cognitive dissonance and from the point of view of the effects of recency and verbalization. To make the comparison, the authors used an experimental procedure in which the participants in the experiment gave ratings to stimulus objects, then they substantiated these ratings, in some cases considering this their own choice, in others — the choice of a partner, and so on. The developed scheme of the experiment made it possible to test the manifestation of the effect of distortion of memories under different experimental conditions.

Final article of the issue — “The relationship of early maladaptive schemas and schema modes with violence risk in persons acquitted by reason of insanity” by E. D. Surgutskiy, G. A. Vartanyan — is devoted to psychological factors that can be considered as potential prerequisites for the development of subsequent behavioral disorders, in particular, they are related to the degree of public danger of persons recognized as insane. The data obtained as a result of empirical research confirm the links between the features of early maladaptive schemas, in particular, insufficiently developed self-control, and the established degree of social danger. The article notes the need to include a psychological examination in the practice of assessing socially dangerous behavior, which should complement the psychiatric assessment.

The fourth issue of the journal “Vestnik of St. Petersburg State University. Psychology” is the last issue of 2023. But the editors are already preparing for new issues of the magazine next year. We hope for the attention of our readers and invite authors to publish their original ideas and research.

Happy New Year 2024 and wishes for new discoveries!

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