

Daniel Dagenais , Ph. D.

ACADEMIC DEGREES PhD (Sociology), Université de Paris-X, Nanterre (1998)
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Diplôme d'études approfondies (Social Sciences), Université de Caen (1993)
Master's Degree (Sociology), UQAM (1989)
Bachelor's Degree (Sociology), UQAM (1986)

BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESEARCH AREAS:

1. Sociology of Modernity and Postmodernity:

I am mainly concerned with the shift from a modern society to a "postmodern society". My various research interests are all, in one way or the other, related to this broad concern: the understanding of the multifaceted transformation of a global society, including its subjective dimension.

2. Sociology of the Family:

In *La fin de la famille moderne: signification des transformations contemporaines de la famille* (forthcoming translation, at UBC Press, as *The Unmaking of the Modern Family*), I have tried to provide an interpretative model of the various changes impacting the family today, through the reconstruction of the concept of the modern family (integrating classical and contemporary social theories: Durkheim, Lévi-Strauss, Parsons, Ariès, de Beauvoir, Habermas, Chodorow, Luhmann, Lacan, etc.). My present research aims at unifying the descriptions of the transformation of constituent dimensions of the family: the institution as such, the conjugal relation, the parent-child relation, and gender relations and identity. This research includes a strong concern for the demographical aspects of this overall transformation.

3. Sociology of Suicide:

I look at the phenomenon of suicide from three different perspectives: to deepen our understanding of the current morphology of suicide in Québec society since it shows, in concentrate, a pattern which began to develop throughout the western world after WWII; to relate this phenomenon with other dimensions of the transformation of society today, notably the crisis of the family; to rethink the seminal work of Durkheim on this issue, especially his notion of anomy (in line with the protecting role of marriage against suicide, for men, identified by Durkheim), since the current trend in

suicide can be seen as the amplification of the modern-industrial pattern.

4. Sociology of Sociological Theory.

Contemporary sociological theory is post classical (which does not mean “postcolonial”). There is no doubt that the evolution of social theory at large reflects the transformation of modern system of society, including the weakening of modern personality. While the ground on which sociology reflectively accounts for its existence (and for the transformation of its object) has been shaken, opening the door to the dialogue with other fields of theorization, it is necessary to remain faithful to the synthetic (or global) goal of classical theory, rather than simply mirroring the “deconstruction” of society itself. Contemporary social theory is thus approached sociologically, and the various schools of thought compared as belonging to an agonistic transformation process of modern society and thought.

TEAM RESEARCH PROJECTS:

Founding member of the Groupe interuniversitaire d'étude de la postmodernité.

Member of the editorial board of *Société*, theoretical sociological journal.

SELECT PUBLICATIONS:

1. Books, Articles and Chapters

Dagenais Daniel (2004), *The (Un)Making of the Modern Family*, UBC Press (forthcoming).

Dagenais, Daniel (2003), “The Suicide of Young Men in Québec”, in *Journal of Indo- Canadian Studies*, no. 2, (forthcoming).

Dagenais, Daniel (ed) (2003), *Hannah Arendt, le totalitarisme et le monde contemporain*, Québec, Presses de l'Université Laval.

Dagenais, Daniel (2002), « Le délire totalitaire », in Dagenais (2002), *Hannah Arendt, le totalitarisme et le monde contemporain*, Québec, PUL. (sous presse).

Dagenais Daniel and Jean-François Côté : (2002), “Dialectical sociology in Québec: about and around Michel

Fraitag's Dialectique et société, in *The American Sociologist*,

Dagenais, Daniel (2002), « Les limites du principe individualiste à l'œuvre dans la transformation de la famille », in *Argument*, vol. 5, no. 1.

Dagenais, Daniel and Jacques-Alexandre Mascotto (2002) (eds) : *Wanted Dead or Alive : Guerre au terrorisme ou guerre totale?*, Special issue of *Société*, no. 22.

Dagenais, Daniel (2000), *La fin de la famille moderne. Signification des transformations contemporaines de la famille*, Québec et Rennes, Les Presses de l'Université Laval et Presses Universitaires de Rennes.

Dagenais, Daniel (1999), «Lettre ouverte à mes collègues du cégep», in Gilles Gagné (dir): *Main-basse sur l'éducation*, Montréal, Nota Bene, p. 225-236.

Dagenais, Daniel (1999), «La famille de la société canadienne-française», in *Société*, no. 21, été 1999, P. 39-56.

Dagenais, Daniel, (1999), «Le rapport à l'enfant dans la famille moderne», in *Recherches sociologiques, Journal of Université catholique de Louvain*, 1999, Vol 30, no. 3, p. 69-85.

Dagenais, Daniel (1998), «La séparation de la figure parentale moderne», *Société*, no. 18/19, été 1998, p. 309-316.

Dagenais, Daniel (1998), «Critique de la postmodernité» (special issue of *Société* published on the occasion of the World Congress of Sociology held in Montréal in 1998: I directed the publication with Jean-François Côté), p. I-VII.

Dagenais, Daniel (1997), «L'Oedipe, le genre et la différence des genres», *Société*, no. 17, Summer 1997, p. 157-185.

Dagenais, Daniel (1997), «Note sur Ducharme: comparaison entre les esthétiques ducharmienne et kunderienne», in *Conjoncture*, 1997, p. 99-109.

Dagenais, Daniel (1996), «Quelques arpents d'Amérique?», *Cahiers de recherche sociologique*, no. 27, 1996, p. 185-195.

Dagenais, Daniel (1995), «La question sociale a-t-elle une

signification?», Cahiers de recherche sociologique, no 24, 1995, p. 223-247.

Dagenais, Daniel and Jean-François Côté (1994), «Postmodernité de l'Amérique», no. 12-13, Société, winter.

Dagenais, Daniel (1991), «La maternité sociale», in Revue du MAUSS, no. 12, Paris, Ed. de la Découverte, 126-136

2. Recent Papers Presented

Dagenais, Daniel : « La suicidologie : une théorie de la pratique de l'intervention auprès des personnes suicidaires », paper presented at the ACSALS Conference, on May 20, 2003.

Dagenais, Daniel (2002): "The Suicide of Young Men in Québec and the Late Modern Male Identity", paper presented at the CASCA Conference in Windsor, on May 3, 2003.

Dagenais, Daniel (2002): « Le suicide des jeunes hommes au Québec comme révélateur de l'anomie inhérente à la société moderne », paper presented at the seminar of the Groupe interuniversitaire d'étude de la postmodernité, le 26 avril.