

International Social Work



KENT SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK MUNICH/TRENTO TRIP 2006

March 2006

Editor: Katherine E. Apple

Refuge in Munich by Jenessa Bryan



Hester Butterfield & Jenessa Bryan

Asylum policy and practices are changing in Germany. Munich hosts about fourteen refugee camps, which are divided among two Caritas "teams." Hester Butterfield, an American social worker, splits her time between a refugee camp, Caritas responsibilities, and teaching community social work at the KSFH (Catholic University of Applied Sciences). She is the only employee for 110 residents at this refugee camp; her hours have been cut to one-third, and she has only one volunteer.

The entrance to this refugee camp is almost hidden: a footpath opening in a fence of shrubs. "Container" housing, or trailers, were originally set up as a temporary solution. The trailer on the immediate right caught fire one week prior; a pile of clothing sits in the snow outside the window.

The front door to the trailer on the left is open, leading to the social worker's office. For Hester, the lack of security – the doors do not lock and there is no security personnel for the camp – is a major concern. Police make random visits to the camp, but usually to check residents' identification cards against a list to seek out "illegal" occupants.

Hester guides us into the recreation room where multi-colored streamers from a Mardi Gras party hang from the ceiling. In the corner, colorful painted boxes represent the *houses* the children made during weekly art therapy sessions.

The most important step in refugee resettlement is securing a residency permit. Unfortunately, the law isolates refugees by requiring a one-year waiting period before applying for housing or any form of employment, adult education or vocational training. Housing in the camp costs 200€ per month per bed for adults and 100 € for children. Families receive food packages twice each week, as well as 40€ per adult and 20€ per child each month. This small amount of money must cover any personal expenses, public transportation tickets, hygiene products, clothing, etc.

The majority of the camp's 110 residents are from Iraq. Following the US war and removal of Saddam, the UNHCR in Germany is revoking refugee status for Iraqis; the cause for political persecution theoretically no longer exists. Many Iraqi refugees fear their lives would be endangered if returned to Iraq. Thus far, no one has been deported because it is illegal to deport someone who may face the death penalty in their country of origin, is suffering severe or long-term illness, or is traumatized.

Yet, Hester has hope for positive change in policy this year. The biggest barrier for refugees is "keeping them in a non-permanent status," socially and economically isolated. She and other Caritas social workers are lobbying the state and national government, who will meet in May, to remedy refugee residency issues.

When asked what assets or strengths are found when working with refugees, Hester Butterfield lights up. "They (the refugees) are very strong or else they wouldn't be here," she answers, her voice and face filled with emotion and pride. Despite the many barriers (continued on page 9)

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Globalization by Lauren Feltner

Walking out of the subway in Germany, one may notice McDonalds, Burger King, Pizza Hut, and new openings for Starbucks. These American 'hot spots' are typical all over the world, and considered outwardly signs of Americanization. America and Germany become in competition with each other, as globalization effects become challenges.

Challenges in Germany are expansion of the world trade, reinforcement of international financial relations, and economical networking of the national economies. Currently, there is a fear of the future in Germany. There is

a cultural depression, and the traditional family of the 1950s' is still considered the norm. Not as many women are in the workforce and the day care system is very bad. There are not enough jobs for the lower level of employees in the workforce. The population is shrinking: low birth rate, increase older age groups, and people moving.

America and Germany need to coexist and develop relations that help each other. Both countries can learn from one other and neither has a gold model approach for handling globalization, social welfare, and the social state. Competition can be good, unless the

country is not thriving and there is not a good economy. For example, the value of an American dollar is not worth as much as the Euro. American culture is taking a new place in many different countries. We should come together and make a new welfare state.

Music in Social Work by Jocelyn Fetalver

Music stimulates the body and mind. It creates emotions within people. A song can be reminiscent of a time in a person's life. Making blissful clatter can be an achievement of one's endeavor. Bodies swaying to a tune are a mean of self expression. Music brings people together.

Susanna Filesch is a professor at the Katholische Fachhochschule in Munich, Germany. Filesch teaches Music and Social Work. She earned her music degree in Budapest, Hungary and continued her education in Hamburg, Germany to earn a degree in Social Work.

Music therapy originated in the United States and Sweden. According to Filesch, it was an American social worker who

first recognized the affects of music among people.

All people can benefit from music therapy. Filesch has found studies that support the creative approach. Research shows young children, the elderly and people with autism experience increases in cognitive and fine motor skills, improved behavior and socialization.

Music therapy is an alternative to the clinical treatment that focuses on an individual's diagnosis; rather it is a therapeutic mean to bring people together with similar attributes. The alternative and creative approach of music therapy can meet the needs of participants who may not benefit from the traditional forms of treatment. Music therapy consists of playing instruments, singing and

dancing in a group. Practitioner and participants can share in the emotions and the appreciation of music therapy. The inspiration of music brings all people together.

When the night has come, and the land is dark,

And the moon is the only light we'll see.

No I won't be afraid, oh I won't be afraid,

Just as long as you stand, stand by me.

Stand By Me – Ben E. King
(www.lyric-world.de)

“MUSIC THERAPY IS AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE CLINICAL TREATMENT THAT FOCUSES ON AN INDIVIDUAL'S DIAGNOSIS...”



Making music with Frau Filesch

German Student Impressions of the US by Dana Patrick

Last summer a number of students who attend the University of Munich came to the United States to study at the University of Louisville for 3 weeks. Our group had the opportunity to meet these German students one night at the Augustiner Bräustuben for dinner. After ordering a round of Weiss beer and Kae-sespaetzle the individuals sitting at the smaller table, which included 3 Kent students, 2 German students and one of the German guides, began to discuss the current trip. The topic quickly shifted to the German students' trip to Louisville last summer. After all the time we had spent experiencing the German culture, we were eager to hear their impressions of Louisville and American Culture.

Commentary ranged from very superficial complaints of bad, watered-down beer to more thought-provoking testaments to different cultural values. The German students were quick to point out that everything in America is cold, from overdoing the air-conditioning to putting ice in the drinks. They also said the biggest difference to them was the faster pace of life in America. It surprised them how spread out the city was and how little public transportation was available. They found necessity of driving all the time stressful and complained at length about having to eat out of cardboard containers. They were not used to being rushed through meals and being given disposable utensils and cups, even at fast food establishments. On the positive side, the German students said that the people in

America were more open minded than they were used to. People were always asking about their accents and interested in hearing about Germany and their course of study. They found everyone to be very accommodating and willing to help when the language proved to be a problem.

This evening spent with German students who had studied in America was very enjoyable and informative. It was a chance to have our questions answered and learn how their experience was similar/different when they studied abroad here. On the whole, I think we were all reassured to find that we had noticed similar differences between the cultures and that visitors to the culture saw the good as well as the bad.

German College Education: Tuition by Meredith Tudor

The University of Applied Sciences in Munich Germany was host to the University of Louisville's Student Exchange Program. A particular lecture that we had while visiting the university was about education in Germany. The structure of the education system in Germany is quite different from the education system in the United States from early education to college education.

Early in their educational careers students are split into three different levels of education. Students who take the grammar school tract are the one's who usually continue on the receive further education from a college or university. However, on 30% of the students choose to go on to college.

The University we visited was a

Catholic Institution that is funded both by the German Federal Republic and by the Catholic Church. Currently, students do not pay any tuition or money to attend the university. However, due the structural changes in the German higher education the university is discussing how much tuition should be for the upcoming fall semester. University staff and administrators are discussing the cost of tuition per semester and have come up with either two hundred euro per semester or five hundred euro per semester. That may not sound like much money to us as students in the United States because we are used to paying thousands of dollars per semester, but remember students in Germany have never

had to pay for college education before. The money that was collected from the students for tuition to the university would be the universities to keep for facilities, programs, and infrastructure.

Would this cost to go to college decrease the number of students who choose to attend college? That is a question for the changes in the educational structure. Learning about the collegiate system in Germany and the quality of education they currently receive at no cost was very interesting to learn about and to compare to our collegiate education in the United States.

“EARLY IN THEIR EDUCATIONAL CAREERS STUDENTS ARE SPLIT INTO THREE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF EDUCATION.”

Recycling In Munich & Trento by Jessica Eggers

Traveling to another culture in itself can lead to learning something new. Seeing how different cultures function and manage certain aspects can be a learning experience. For instance, one of the major differences I observed between European and American culture is the level of concern about conservation. Everywhere we visited in both Italy and Germany had trash cans that were separated for metal, paper, compost material, glass and trash. The train stations were like this, our hotel rooms, and some agencies we visited had trash cans like this.

Another aspect of the European concern for conservation was the type of cars they drive. There were by no means the number of SUV's that are in the United States. For the most part, the cars were much smaller and fuel efficient. Additionally, I noticed the amount of people that biked around Munich and Trento was much higher than in the States. In Munich most of the sidewalks were divided in half, with pedestrians on one side and a bike path on the other. This is a much safer and biker friendly environment that is present in Louisville.

Another difference between the two cultures was the use of bags in the grocery store. In Germany and Italy plastic bags

were sold for 5 or 10 cents a piece which encourages people to bring their own bags to the store, reducing the amount of waste caused by excessive bags. Nylon bags were sold relatively cheaply all around that could be used at the store. Water saving toilets were everywhere we went in Europe, something that is rarely seen in the States. The toilets in Europe use 30%-40% less water than those sold in the United States.

The use of lighting was also different. For instance, at the Katholische Stiftungsfachhochschule the hall lights were rarely on and the classrooms relied mostly on natural lighting from huge windows instead of overhead lights. At UofL, some of my classrooms barely even have a window, so the lights are always on, even if no one is in there. At our hotel in Trento, the hall lights were on a timer so they were not constantly on. Once you hit the switch, they would stay on for about a minute and then shut off so as not to use excessive amounts of electricity. Also in Trento, the light switch in the room was connected to the entire breaker system, so if it was off, there was essentially no electricity. When things are plugged in like hair dryers or televisions, even if they are not on, they are draining electricity. By turning off the breaker in a room when not using it, you

would reduce energy loss.

During our tour of the Monastery at Benediktbeuern, the other campus of the Katholische Stiftungsfachhochschule, the man that gave our tour told of his brother that lived in Atlanta, Georgia. He had recently gone over to visit him and was astounded at the size of our roads and the number of cars. He stated that Europeans seemed much more concerned and worried about conservation than Americans. After my two week experience, I have to agree with him. In Germany, if your trash is not properly separated they will not even pick it up. This is a stark contrast to U of L's campus where there are no recycling receptacles in sight.

As was stated before, traveling to and experiencing a different culture is a wonderful learning experience. My time in Germany and Italy has taught me things that I can accomplish personally to reduce my energy consumption and waste as well as advocate for on a local, state, and national level.



Don't forget to recycle!

“...ONE OF THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES I OBSERVED BETWEEN EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN CULTURE IS THE LEVEL OF CONCERN ABOUT CONSERVATION.”



The Smart Car

Adolf-Mathes Haus by Sherri Madison

The Adolf-Mathes Haus is an establishment for male German citizens with exceptional social difficulties. The program is designed to reintegrate the formerly homeless clients into the workforce and the community. The establishment is funded through CARITAS, a social service organization of the Catholic Church. One must be at least 18 years old, capable of working, and motivated to change their situation to reside in the Adolf-Mathes Haus.

Each resident lives with a group of seven to nine men who share a kitchen, bath-

room, and fellowship room. The men start in the beginner's group where they are introduced to the program, meet with a social worker at least once a week, begin their course in metal, ceramics, or wood, and start working. The men also work within the house cooking, cleaning, and maintaining the store where their creative work is sold. Attending support groups and individual counseling meetings are required, and clients are also assisted in finding outside work and housing.

The Adolf-Mathes Haus is not only a program intended to

help clients find and maintain work, but also a place where men can learn how to be a part of the community again. They are encouraged to participate in athletic activities, develop artistic talents, and go on group outings planned by the social service team. The Adolf-Mathes Haus offers a much needed step between traditional homeless shelters that provide assistance in meeting the most basic needs and complete integration into the community. The United States would definitely benefit from having establishments like the Adolf-Mathes Haus.



Adolf-Mathes Haus

Nightlife in Europe: Clubbing & Ice Hockey are 2 Cheap Options by James Schneeman

After a hard day of learning about European social work your average masters student has many options when it comes to evening activities. Two of my evenings were spent dancing the night away at crazy European clubs and two were spent getting rowdy watching Munchen's minor league hockey team. I would highly recommend either of these options for your next trip to Europe.

The disco that I attended in Trento was unusual only because of how raging it was on a Tuesday night (College Night). The club itself was noticeable only by a random neon light above a random door located down some random alley, but it was where everyone else was going. In this particular club, you received a ticket upon admittance on which they mark your drinks and coat check, and

then you pay as you leave. Inside was really nothing special, a bar area with some chairs and the back area was for dancing. The music was typical American rap music. At first I was not very impressed. That was until about 12:30 when it became so crowded that I could barely move. The dance floor was overflowing with people as they all danced to songs like "Gold digger," and "Candy Shop." There was a real communal vibe amongst the crowd. Everyone was dancing with everyone else in an aura of positive energy. The smokers had to smoke in a separate smoking room, which I certainly appreciated. The kids were so very friendly and tried to communicate as best as they could. I actually met a few English speakers, from Australia and South Africa. As the evening progressed the music

became faster, with techno house beats behind remixes of 70's and 80's American pop songs. There were even a few Italian dance songs, which were nice to hear. Then by 2:30, the party was over and we all had to wait in line to pay. A Fabulous evening for only 8.00 euro.

The Disco in Munchen, Germany was a popular place to attend on Thursday nights because on Thursdays it offered all you can drink punch that is served out of a huge strawberry. In the main room there was a huge dance floor with two poles for the adventurous ones that played 70's and 80's dance music. There was also a back room that played slower style house beats. I brought Glow Sticks to this club and was amazed that many of the partygoers (continued on page 9)

"THERE WAS A REAL COMMUNAL VIBE AMONGST THE CROWD. EVERYONE WAS DANCING WITH EVERYONE ELSE IN AN AURA OF POSITIVE ENERGY."

The American Servers' Dream by Laura A. Dick

Going out to eat at a restaurant for lunch or dinner is common for a lot of Americans. After working hard all day or all week it's just nice to go to a restaurant where you get waited on and catered to, with no clean up and service with a smile. Unfortunately, it is far too common that American's take advantage of that hard working server who brings you at least 5 refills and cleans up the huge mess your kids leave behind without hesitation. A server in an American restaurant makes no more than two dollars an hour which is barely enough to cover their taxes, meaning every two weeks their pay check reads \$0. When enjoying a night out, generally you would take your time with your meal, enjoying yourself and company, and then proceed to throw down a \$5 bill on the table like you are doing your server a favor... yea, thanks. After all you wanted your salad with no tomatoes, extra cheese and dressing on the side... no problem; you asked for an orange slice with your tea that had to be sweet, lemon with your water, extra ice, keep the refills coming and don't forget the straw; you were hungry waiting for your food, so here is an endless basket of bread and butter, no charge... this is fairly accurate unless you travel to Europe. Now this is an American server's dream.

A server approaches the table; if you're not ready you just lost your chance for the next 10 minutes to even have something to drink. You want a side of sauerkraut; don't even think about it unless you want the sausages and mashed pota-

toes it comes with on the menu. A salad with no dressing; think again. How about low fat milk... well "that's just crazy." Before you dig into that pretzel, or bag of breadsticks that your server just dropped on your table, get your wallet out because they cost. Once your order is placed, you will have hot food in a matter of minutes. Entrees come out when they are ready and usually not with the rest of your table; this prevents a long wait under a heat lamp. Go ahead and forget refills because they don't exist and don't expect to pay with a credit card because Europe is all about cash. After paying for your meal, it is not necessary to tip because servers in Europe are on salary!!!

Being a server in Europe is respected as a hard working job. They make their living on their annual salary instead of their smile. Tips of course are still welcomed if you really enjoyed your service but there is no worry about making enough tip money to pay bills. Americans have a misconception that a server is there to cater to their needs and based on how positive or negative their experience was is what the server should be tipped. Realistically, servers in both Europe and America take orders, run food, clean tables, close checks, clean their stations, restock, polish silverware, and smile. Customers eating at a restaurant do not see how much work a server does after they leave their table which gives them an excuse or offers them justification of tipping \$5 instead of \$10.

After returning from Europe to my American serving job on the weekends, I am now envious of the European mentality on serving. Last night alone I had a customer who was no more than 8 years old and specifically ordered 5 lemons, two straws, extra ketchup, extra fries, and a soft chocolate chip cookie to go. Are you kidding me?!? The next time you go out for dinner, take a moment and be thankful for the following: free refills on sodas, water and coffee, ice, free bread, customer service, hospitality, salads with whatever dressing you wish, special requests without hesitation, and that hard working server who wears a permanent smile and will gladly clean up your mess, after all they depend on you for their annual salary.

**"BEING A SERVER
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Jocelyn, Jessica, Paula & Jenessa with our Hofbrauhaus server

Dreary Days at Dachau by Anita Dobbins

On March 22, 2006, a group of 16 Kent School students walked through the gate at Dachau marked “Arbeit Macht Frei” (“Work will set you free”). A couple days before was the 73rd anniversary of the completion of this first concentration camp of the Nazis (March 21, 1933). We soon learned that we had entered the same gate and were walking the same path where over 200,000 prisoners from more than 30 countries had entered between 1933-1945. As we learned of the death of at least 30,000 of that number who died from forced labor, mass murder, starvation, disease, or torture, we knew this wasn’t just another stop on our sightseeing

tour.

At times we walked and gazed in silence. The gas chambers certainly didn’t speak of freedom. Not one of those whose ashes lay not far from the cremation ovens chose to die there. How could differences in nationality or political affiliation or sexual orientation or religious conviction or anything else be so bad that this was the fate of fellow human beings.

The day itself was gloomy and gray in color. The air seemed heavy. So were our hearts as we exited that gate. Then James, a classmate, spoke. He

simply asked if the group could stop, join hands, and join him as he voiced a Hebrew prayer for those who had died in that place. We did. It was the least we could do as we remembered fellow human beings who suffered during many dreary days at Dachau. We exited that gate at Dachau to continue our calling to the kind of work that truly sets people free of hatred and prejudice and injustice and war and whatever else it is that might rob human beings from true freedom to live to their fullest and in harmony with one another.



Gates of Dachau

“WE SOON
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German Culture & Customs by Paula Mitchell-Glore

You might be a stupid American if you...

...ask for a glass of water in a restaurant ...try to pay with your credit card ...stand in line and wait your turn ...wait to go to the toilette because you don’t want to pay a euro ...keeping asking “what’s the temperature in Fahrenheit?”

...eat schnitzel at every meal

...ask for ice for your drink

...have to buy a suitcase to take home all your souvenirs ...try to get to the university by getting off the U-Bahn at Konigsplatz, instead Rosenheimer Platz

As with any custom or culturally specific way of behaving, Germans have a history that

established their current culture and customs. When at a restaurant, ordering a glass of “tap” water or ice was usually met with a puzzled look or ignored. Historically, Germany’s water was hazardous to the health. Despite German public water now being some of the healthiest in the world, their “phobia” of drinking tap water continues today. So, why couldn’t we pay with credit cards? Well, one obvious reason is stores and restaurants do not want to pay the credit card transaction fee. Culturally speaking though, the word for “debt” and “guilt” are the same word and might speak more to the cultural reluctance to use credit as a means of payment. Other customs still remain a mystery to us, such as, why don’t they wait in a line and

why their doors “pull” open instead of “push” open.

We had to laugh at ourselves frequently as we made our social blunders regarding German culture and customs. We affectionately called ourselves a “herd” because we always felt like we were in the way when all 17 of us traveled together. We also risked our lives by walking in the bike paths and crossing the street on the “red man”. Regardless of the social blunders, our group was fascinated by our new experiences as we were escorted by Dr. Lawson and our gracious German hosts, and introduced to the culture, customs and history of Germany.



German Lion in Lederhosen

Shopping and Profiling by Kelly

While traveling in Trento, Italy and Munich, Germany, I was able to partake in one of my favorite activities, shopping. I was so excited about being able to buy all the glorious items that these two countries have to offer, things that I can not buy in the United States. From the moment that we arrived in Trento, my mind was completely focused on one thing, when am I going to have time to explore all of these fabulous stores? Finally by 4:00 pm on the first full day in Italy, the stores were open and I was free to empty my bank account. I couldn't wait to get started.

As I entered my first store, I quickly realized that shopping in Trento, Italy was a completely different experience for me than shopping in the United States. Right away, I felt a little uncomfortable. I soon noticed that I was being followed all around the store as I shopped by the store's em-

ployees. While in other stores, if I wasn't being followed, I was carefully being watched. On a couple of occasions, I was yelled at by a store owner in Italian. Since I am a typical American that does not speak a second language, I had no idea what the shop owner was trying to convey to me. In one shop, I had my eye on beautiful wool beret. Being the tactile person that I am, I immediately reached out to touch the hat. I quickly found out that touching is not allowed. So, for the second time in one day, I was yelled at by a store owner. At least this time I understood my mistake.

Trento is a small city in Italy at the foothills of the Alps. While talking to a few of the locals, I learned that Trento does not get many American tourists. Most of their tourists come from nearby Germany or the United Kingdom. Since the city isn't use to having Americans in their territory, I

theorized that this may be the reason for my shopping experiences in Italy. Even though shopping in Trento was not always a positive occurrence for me, I still loved all of the goods that were offered in this area.

Germany on the other hand, was a delightful shopping experience. Munich is a large, metropolitan area that is fairly diverse. This is a city that is use to tourists from all over the world. I felt that I could walk around the stores in Munich without feeling profiled. I definitely was not followed, watched, or yelled at while shopping in this city. I was very comfortable in Munich, and from the amount on my credit card bill, I indulged a little too much. However, everything I bought while I was on this trip holds memories, so I don't regret the fact that I splurged while in Europe.



“...SHOPPING IN TRENTO ITALY WAS A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE FOR ME THAN SHOPPING IN THE UNITED STATES.”

Day with Daniel by Jennifer Hurley

Our fifteen day European adventure began in beautiful Trento, Italy in a quaint bed and breakfast style hotel, Aquila Doro. Our group met Daniel the first day, an Italian man of short stature with a bright smiling face exclaiming “buon giorno” and “benvenuto” as seventeen weary travelers finally reached their destination after spending fifteen long hours on airplanes, subways, and trains. Daniel epitomized the gracious host, answering questions with patience and

care, providing English explanations and translations when our Italian was not so good, offering direction on restaurants and shopping, and giving any amenity to make our stay in Trento more comfortable, an extra blanket or even slippers.

As my gal pals on the trip would quickly point out, I was obsessed with interacting with the local people during our trek through Europe, and therefore, it was not surprising to anyone

that I immediately befriended Daniel regularly asking him questions regarding Italian culture or more specifically life in Trento as I checked in and out of my hotel room throughout each day. In an exciting twist of events, one free afternoon as myself and fellow traveler, Kelly, were wandering through the lovely streets of Trento, we ran into Daniel who, having the afternoon off



Jennifer, Daniel & Kelly

(continued on next page)

Refuge cont.

ers, personal trauma and unmet needs, here in this refugee camp friendships bridge individuals and families, and are necessary for survival. “They are full of hope. It is so difficult here, but they stay here because they want better for their children. It is the nature of this community that is so powerful. Regardless of nationality, language, food preferences, hygiene practices, everything, the families come together. They look after each other’s kids. They take care of

Nightlife continued

had never seen them before. The vibe was very similar to the Italian club, with everyone dancing together. There was not the typical fear and anxiety associated with most clubs because everyone was very welcoming and accepting. Very neat club, and the whole evening was only 7.50 euro.

Munchen was also the home of the EHC Munchen ice hockey team. Their games were played at Olympic park, which was built for the 72 Olympics. The neat thing was that the area behind both goals was all standing room. These sections were filled with all the crazy fans from each team. A few differences were that the fans could bring in drums to help

the cheers, and when the home team scored a huge flag is pulled over the whole section of fans. The food and beer was very reasonably priced, and they served warm spiced wine, which was just perfect for a cold night in Germany. When the team wins, the players take a victory lap and play fun games with the fans. It was obvious how grateful each group was for the other. A wonderful experience for only 9.50 euro.

So the next time that you are in Trento, Italy or Munchen, Germany and you are looking for a cheap night out, don’t forget about the Discos and the Hockey games. And just remember, a hangover is only temporary, but digital pictures

Day with Daniel continued

from his work at the hotel, offered to take the two of us on a walking tour of Trento and answer more of our questions about “the city of castles.”

As we trotted along the cobblestone streets and soaked in the simplistic beauty of the architecture, Daniel began to tell us about his family. He explained that in Italy, nothing is more important than family, so much so, that the day to day work schedule in the various cities and villages is molded to allow for family time around each meal, with business literally shutting down each day from 12:00 noon to 3:00pm for lunch time, reopening at 3:00pm and then shutting down again at 7:00pm for din-

ner. Daniel explained that meals are expected to be shared with your family and even men well into their thirties and forties go home to their mothers to break bread together at meal times. Daniel explained that his family actually owns the Aquila Doro, as well as, a restaurant in Trento and an additional hotel in another city. When asked who is in charge of running the various businesses, Daniel explained that no one is “in charge” so to speak, but rather, as a family everyone works together and shares business duties equally. He identified that often times family members go into business together pointing out a boutique owned by two sisters on our walk. Daniel explained that family

and business go very well together because business hours can be set so as to work around individual family meal times and/or celebrations, families can support each other financially, and families get along very well so it makes the business relationship function very smoothly.

On our tour with Daniel we spotted throughout the city what appeared to be spray painted graffiti and inquired about the meanings behind the art work. Daniel explained that the graffiti sprayed throughout Trento is very political, identifying a current political divide in Italy between the rich and poor with the rich supporting the current govern-

(continued on next page)

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Day with Daniel continued

ment and the poor banning together and making statements in protest of the government such as with the graffiti. Daniel explained that the artists were most likely adults and that often they utilized code names with which they would sign their art work in order to protect their identities. Daniel also pointed out various examples of anti-German graffiti explaining that because of its location, Toronto is a blend of German and Italian culture and

many people hope for a day when Toronto will be a pure Italian city wishing to rid Toronto of German culture with German citizens leaving and returning to Germany. Daniel identified that he does not have a problem with his city's current government, that he and his family do well for themselves, and as long as his family is healthy and business is running, life is good and beautiful.



European Public Transportation

Public Transportation in Germany by Shannon Davis

Traveling to a foreign country can be oh so intimidating at times, especially when you have to worry about how you will get from destination A to destination B. Well this is one worry you should not have when traveling around Europe. Trains, trams, buses, subways, taxis, and even a nice pair of walking shoes; you need it, they've got it. No need to worry about those rent-a-car prices, driving on the opposite side of the road or even the skyrocketing gas prices.

Before ever traveling to Europe I never thought of how nice it would be if I could get anywhere I wanted without having to drive my own car. I mean think of the benefits of a system like this! Not only for a person like you and me that has the means to buy a car and everything that goes along with it (insurance, gas, tune-ups, etc), but for a person without their own personal transportation. Think for a second about the lengths a person would have to go through to get to the grocery store, a job, an interview, day-

care, school, court dates or anywhere else we all go everyday. Our current system leaves little room for people with this kind of need to succeed in every day life. We separate the poor people from everyone else through this distinction. There are added stressors to their lives because our system of public transportation is not sufficient.

In Munich 16 students and one professor were able to get from a hotel near the train station to a university to a homeless shelter to the main street in town with all the shopping you could ever need at your disposal. All without ever stepping foot in a four wheeled gas powered vehicle. All without having to check schedule after schedule for times of arrivals, departures and transfers. All without costing over 2 Euros per person. With this system the poor do not have the added worries of how they are going to get to that interview, or get to work on time, pick up the kids from daycare or all the other aspects of life that are so important.

How many people in a fancy

office building in downtown Louisville can say they've ridden the TARC? You probably won't get a huge number of people there, how many people at Wayside Christian Mission will answer yes to that question? In our society there is a great divide of classes in those that use the public transportation. This is not so in the European countries. Everyone, young to old, rich to poor, is familiar with and uses public transportation frequently. This helps to reduce the negative connotation on public transportation and the people who are riding along which can also produce undue stress.

Needless to say I am a huge fan of public transportation in Europe. Many of the problems that we have to deal with in social work stem from a lack of transportation at their disposal. This problem would be virtually eliminated if we developed a system similar to that used in Europe. Imagine with a stamp, scan, or punch depending on where you are in Europe, the whole country is at your disposal.

"IN OUR SOCIETY THERE IS A GREAT DIVIDE OF CLASSES IN THOSE THAT USE THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION. THIS IS NOT SO IN THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES."

Frauen Therapie Zentrum by Jessie Clemons

Frauen Therapie Zentrum (FTZ) is the women's therapy center in Munich, Germany. FTZ was founded in 1978. It is an organization rooted in the feminist, self-help and antipsychiatric movement. They offer services for women by women. No men are employed at this agency. The primary funding for the agency comes from the city and the county. Additional funding come from the European Social Fund; health, retirement, and other insurances; fines, fees, donations, etc. The agencies yearly budget is \$5 million.

FTZ offers a multitude of services. These services range from general counseling to professional trainings. In 1978 when the agency began they offered general counseling to women with psychosocial and psychosomatic problems. The following year, the agency be-

gan to branch out and started offering services to women with substance abuse problems and eating disorders. This included counseling for long term outpatient treatment. In 1994, the FTZ began a job training facility for women with mental health and substance abuse problems. At this time they also opened a day care center for women with mental health problems. In 1998, the agency began counseling services to address everyday life issues, family, housing, finances, etc. In the 2000's, the agency opened a residential facility for women with mental health problems. Women with these problems share a flat, approximately 5 women to each flat, and they receive counseling from social workers. In the last two years they have developed occupational therapy for women with mental

health issues. This service provides concentration, organization, endurance, patience, relaxation, etc. The structure of this service is group training and one-on-one sessions.

The Women's Therapy Center is a wonderful agency for women. Its main focus is treating women. To do this the agency employees many people with different specializations. The FTZ employ's psychologists, clinical social workers, and many others. They also rely on volunteers to help the clients. It is apparent that this agency is beneficial to women who require treatment. It has proven to be an effective agency; the large number of women who have been treated and the progress that has been noted shows this.

"... AN ORGANIZATION ROOTED IN THE FEMINIST, SELF-HELP AND ANTIPSYCHIATRIC MOVEMENT."

The group at Kloster Benediktbeuren



Student Quotes

Through my experience I am better aware of aspects in other parts of the world that will help make America a better place, and a renewed sense of what being an American means. Lauren Feltner

The international social work trip has given me the opportunity to travel to Europe and learn about the social work systems of Hungary and Germany. Dr. Lawson has established international relations to make it possible for student to travel and learn abroad. Dr. Lawson and the International Social Work Program is an asset to the Kent School! Jocelyn Fetalver

The international trip allowed me the opportunity to expand my horizons by recognizing that different societies have common social problems yet diverse solutions. Kelly Zapata

I think that anytime you travel outside of the United States, no matter what you do, it will always have some impact on you. Experiencing different cultures and critically examining how other societies function is a valuable learning tool. Jessica Eggers

The international trip was an experience that made both the benefits and barriers in our current social welfare system much more visible. It

also opened my eyes to alternative possibilities to the current programs in America. Sherri Madison

The international social work trip was a wonderful experience for me. Not only did I learn about a new culture and a different way of practicing social work as we explored German and Italy, but I also spent two weeks with some incredible social work students. Dachua, the concentration camp, was the most intense experience for me on the trip and one I will never forget! Paula Mitchell-Glore

I learned how successfully social services can be delivered if the whole community is willing to participate. There was an attitude that they were not working simply for the good of themselves but for the welfare of their city, their country and for all of Europe. The trip also helped me with my personal and professional growth, and helped me realize the international impact that social workers can make. James Schneeman

I enjoyed the trip immensely and feel that nothing can replace actually experiencing another culture. I gained such insight into feeling like an outsider. The opportunity to completely immerse myself in the culture with 'social work

minded' friends was priceless! Dana Patrick

Education is really important in Germany and their culture spends a lot of time and resources on education. Also, I learned that some social issues are not as problematic in Germany as they are here in the US...for example, their laws and culture just do not accept such issues or behaviors. Meredith Tudor

How I was affected by traveling to Germany... I was definitely affected in a way I did not expect, and that relates to what I found out about war and what war does to countries. I was able to see a beautiful country that is still strongly affected by war 59 years following WWII and this made me very sad for not only the United States but also Iraq and Afghanistan. Laura Dick

The international social work trip was a life changing experience for me; this trip was the first time I have been able to travel outside of the United States. I truly enjoyed learning about another culture and the ways in which social work is valued in another country. Getting a non-American perspective of social work was very refreshing. Katherine Apple

“I LEARNED HOW SUCCESSFULLY SOCIAL SERVICES CAN BE DELIVERED IF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY IS WILLING TO PARTICIPATE.”