



**Knowledge, expression of subjectivity and democracy in the group: the experience of emancipation and growth of a group of people in the “Maddalena” Mental Health Center**

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This communication will show, in a collective form, a group experience taking place for several months in the “Maddalena” mental health center, involving people who knew each other and could express their subjectivity in a weekly encounter group. The group work has been important to reveal the subjectivity of people who were afraid to express themselves and eventually came to influence relationships, resulting in loneliness, isolation and often signs of crisis in the phenomenology of the “symptom”.

The group tries to develop an encounter among “peers”, each one with a different “role”, but whose sharing is not influenced by roles: as in a jazz band, where all musicians are important and each one has its own peculiarity and is “free” to play its part in tune with the others.

At the end of every meeting, participants “distill” some words then displayed on a poster, so that each subjectivity can converge at the co-construction of a shared meaning of the meeting.

Therefore, the communication is not going to be portrayed by a single person or from a professional: instead, it is going to be a unanimous depiction that could end with the involvement of the people in the audience.