Paths and pitfalls in the investigation of emotion in the Vigotski's Psychology

Abstract

This article aims to present and discuss some aspects of the path taken by Vigotski in his intention to produce a Historic-Cultural Psychology, where emotion is promoted from the position of simple adjunct to the protagonist in the subjective dynamic. His intention laid on the search for answers to controversial and antithetical theories that sometimes assumed emotion as and immanent substance and other times as a biological substrate near to disappear, without presenting ways to overcome this contradiction. Lined on the fundaments of Historic Materialism and Dialectics Materialism, the author aims to investigate emotion using the historical method, demonstrating that the development of higher psychological functions is conditioned to its mediating action of psychic life. The contributions of his studies produced impacts that reverberate until the present days in different scientific areas that are dedicated to the investigation of emotion. *Key-words*: Emotion; Historical method; Vigotski.