

# Explaining Liberation Psychology in English

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# Liberation Psychology 1

Another kind of *critical psychology*,  
that goes beyond mere criticism, and  
(re)constructs an action-orientated psychology,  
grounded in the commitment to and perspective of  
the oppressed

# Liberation Psychology 2

1) A 'new horizon': an outward turn from preoccupation with the scientific and social status of the discipline, and redefinition of purpose in terms of the needs and interests of the majority of the (Latin American) people

(2) 'A new epistemology' where the criterion for psychology's relevance, and indeed truth, is found through its interrogation by those popular Latin American majorities

(3) 'A new praxis': where knowledge will come from the attempt to transform reality.

# Psychology and the English language

While

1) English is the language of the UK and USA, historic and current centres of global domination.

It is also

2) used as a primary, or professional means of communication in, and between, many other areas, including regions of the global South.

# How does LP translate?

Particularly relevant and distinctive features (Burton & Kagan, 2009)

conscientization,

'realismo-critico'

de-ideologisation

the social-societal orientation,

the preferential option for the oppressed majorities

methodological eclecticism.

Also,

The recovery of historical memory.

# Strategies for diffusion

Describing and interpreting

Writing, Speaking, sharing – where possible using publicly accessible outlets.

Applying / adapting, developing.

Network initiative.

# Written outputs and their availability

- 2004· *Viva Nacho! Liberating psychology in Latin America*· (UK, popular psychology journal, available on-line)¶¶
- 2004· *La psicología social de la liberación aprendiendo de América Latina*· (México, small journal, on-line)¶¶
- 2005· *Liberation social psychology learning from Latin America*· (with C. Kagan)· (European Journal, available on-line)¶¶
- 2009· *Towards a really social psychology Liberation Psychology beyond Latin America*· (with C. Kagan)· (USA, Chapter in expensive book, version available on-line)¶¶
- 2013· *Introducing Dussel: the philosophy of liberation and a really social psychology*· (with M. Flores Osorio)· (South Africa: print and online journal)· ¶¶
- 2013· *The analectic turn critical psychology and the new political context*· (France: online journal)¶¶
- 2013· *Existe la psicología de la liberación fuera de América latina?*· (Chile: online journal)¶¶
- 2013· *Liberation psychology a constructive critical praxis*· (Brasil, from paper given in Turkish Kurdistan: online and print journal)¶¶
- 2013· *Liberating Psychology Everywhere*· (paper given in Palestine: website)¶¶
- 2013· *A Second Psychology of Liberation Valuing and moving beyond the Latin American*· (UK, small circulation journal: available online)¶¶
- in press· *Liberation Psychology: Another kind of critical psychology*· (with L. Gómez)· (UK: Handbook of Critical Psychology)¶¶
- in press· *Community Psychology and Liberation Psychology: Creative Synergy for Ethical and Transformative Praxis*· (with M. Montero and C. Sonn)· (USA: Handbook of Community Psychology)· ¶¶



Liberation Psychology  
English language Liberation Psychology Network

[www.libpsy.org](http://www.libpsy.org)

Established November, 2011

82 members (via website) 100 on email list

95 Blog posts Library of documents. Reading list.

82 Twitter followers

A fair amount of interest but largely passive – why?

How to make the network more participative, more owned by the members?



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