

Occupational Justice and Territory: exploring a new form of occupational injustice

Katherine Jones³, Eugenia Pizarro¹, Gail Whiteford², Silvana Estrella¹, Fernanda Figueroa¹, Francisca Helmke¹, Claudia Pontigo¹

Justice Health & Forensic Mental Health Network, Malabar, NSW, Australia, Universidad Austral de Chile, Valdivia, Los Ríos, Chile, ²Griffith University, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

The background to this proposal developed from dialogue and reflection on the concept of territory that arose in the context of the Inagural Occupational Justice and Social Inclusion Symposium held in Chile in 2016. Our objective is to discuss the relation between the idea of territory and occupational justice. The approach is developed through the review of the concept of territory proposed by Gilberto Giménez (1999, 1999, 2005) and the discussion of its possible application to occupational science and occupational justice oriented occupational therapy. Our scholarly dialogue to date has lead us to propose a new form of occupational injustice: "occupational dislocation".

In order to test the concept of occupational dislocation, in this presentation we reflect on two Chilean case studies. The first is the case of the Chilean "campamentos" which are informal urban settlements, that the Chilean Government is attempting to eradicate which is having significant occupational impacts on those people relocated to the urban periphery. The second case is the city of Chaitén, which was relocated following a volcanic eruption as it was deemed unsafe by the government yet, its citizens returned. Both cases illustrate the importance of territory - or "place" to every day occupations and identity formation and consequences of ignoring it, from a governmentality perspective. We conclude that gaining a greater understanding of the territorial base of occupation will allow the occupational therapy community internationally to address the complex phenomena underpinning scenarios of occupational injustice and the needs of those citizens marginalized by them.