

## **Impact of E.M. Jellinek on Alcohol Studies Organizing as a Distinct Professional Field** (Extended abstract)

E.M. Jellinek was the connecting link between psychiatric nosology and the recovery movement. He realised that the epistemology of addiction is both: biological and sociological, he did not consider it to be two different realms of scientific discourse (as if one concerned with the living world and the other with the society) but showed that statistical methods and demographical analysis could be applied to any field concerned with alcohol related phenomena.

E. M. Jellinek brought the discourse of recovery from alcoholism in a form that many professionals from different fields were able to embrace. Alcoholism studies don't speak only to a specific community, but open a dialogue practically with the whole mankind.

Whilst the tales of most famous scholars of the modern era have been well documented, the history of Jellinek is very poorly and distortedly known.

The aim of this presentation is to discuss Jellinek's impact on evolution the recovery agenda and alcohol studies on one hand, to show the historical roots of his scientific and policy-making stagecrafting including his socio-historical, cultural and intergenerational legacy on the other hand.

We reflect on Jellinek's main scientific results: "phases of alcohol addiction" and "Jellinek formula" for calculation the prevalence of alcoholism. This lore has been giving scientific credence to the disease concept of alcoholism. Authors show that these taken-for-granted assumptions are based on faulty generalisation and forged facts. The same can be stated about Jellinek's seminal paper on his double-blind experiment which placed him as the protagonist of drug-testing field. We also discuss the beneficial and adverse effects of the medicalisation of alcoholism which was the first illness in history accepted to be a disease by voting.

Jellinek, a third-generation member of a mushrooming self-made man family, a superfluous person during the Hungarian Communist Revolution of 1919 and over the White Terror followed it. Jellinek had been a passive witness of the revolution, which devoured its own children, and became a cunning antihero in the following period of moral void by 1920. He was hidden from view for ten years before appearing in the USA. Jellinek had a special resourcefulness in integrating playful, speculative and artistic capacity with specialised and technological approach. He appears to be an example of a modern struggle for the survival of a personal scientific mission. Authors conclude that Jellinek's truth is not medical (diagnostic) but a recovery oriented one with an aim towards transforming lifestyle, identity and intergenerational transmission.

The presentation will be a summing up of our recently published research results in Hungarian scientific journals completed by new findings and their analysis. Summaries as follow:

Kelemen, Gabor & Mark, Monika: **E.M. Jellinek, the "free floating" alcoholist**  
PSYCHIATRIA HUNGARICA 2012, 27/5, 304-319.

Summary: This paper is divulging unpublished materials based on recent research on E. M. Jellinek who was the father of the scientific-medical agenda of alcoholology. Results of our research in Hungarian archives not only open still unexplored realm for alcohol studies but also evoke fresh readings of its history.

A good half of Jellinek's life has been uncharted and still contains terrain unbeknown to us. Following some infamous activity he fled from Hungary on the very same day (June 4, 1920) when the country lost two-thirds of its territory. After a ten-year roaming Jellinek's private

Odyssey came to an end. He has started living his personal “American dream” in the country of his mother through the impersonal dream of alcoholology, which was going to aspire to transform itself from a moral movement to an emerging interdisciplinary field of medicine.

Jellinek had chosen to be uprooted and he managed to conceal his past in Budapest including his trans-generational past quite effectively. Authors have made an attempt to interpret the ambivalent tale and controversial personality of Jellinek embedded in the progress of alcohol studies.

**Keywords:** E. M. Jellinek; new data from Hungarian archives; fresh readings of the history of alcohol studies

Mark, Monika & Brettner, Zs: **Jellinek's anti-hagiography**

SZOCIÁLIS SZEMLE 2012/1. (33-42.)

Summary

The principles of modern addictology are rooted in alcoholology. The development of the field is inseparable from E. M. Jellinek's contribution. The scientific-medical agenda of alcoholology has apparently been created by him. This paper provides a brief overview of Jellinek's professional and personal history.

The paper is a sort of „work in progress”. Authors opened the project to study those episodes of Jellinek's life story that are not yet known to the public. At the end of the 1990s Ron Roizen revealed an infamous episode of Jellinek's past. Although Roizen's presumption was not proved, the hypothesis that E. M. Jellinek was the same as the Hungarian fraud named Jellinek Morton has some grounding.

The supposition was confirmed in an interview with Jellinek's daughter, Ruth Surry in the mid-1960s, in which she asserted that his father had become involved in a post-World War I currency speculation.

Presently, we do not have any information about the origins of Jellinek's interest in alcohol studies and 12-steps conception. Authors assume that his past in Budapest - an unknown terrain in the story of addictology - might explain for this turn in his life. What were the intellectual and emotional influences which inspired him to enter the field of alcohol studies?

**Keywords:** E.M.Jellinek's Hungarian roots, alcoholology, medical model of alcoholism.

Kelemen, Gabor & Mark, Monika: **E. M. Jellinek's silenced and silencing transgenerational story**

PSYCHIATRIA HUNGARICA 2013, 28/4, in press.

Jellinek is a kind of archetypal character for future generations in the field of addiction studies. His implosion in the arena of alcoholism around the age of 50 was an unexpected challenge to medical science. We know very little about his own role models giving an intellectual and moral compass to his pragmatic creativity. More than 30 years has passed since Jellinek's death when an American sociologist Ron Roizen started unearthing his silent story. Roizen discerned that there are a lot of unsaid and muted issues in his personal Hungarian past. Our paper, based on the authors' research in Hungarian archives and other sources reveals that not just Jellinek's personal but his transgenerational narrative has been not-yet-said. This silenced and silencing history appears an unfinished business of acculturation of the family, which started prior to four generations. Authors have been concluding that the issue of religious conversion is a critical point in the process of acculturation. They examine the counter move of loyalty to family values and driving force of assimilation making their story unspeakable.

**Keywords:** E.M. Jellinek; transgenerational narrative; acculturation, silenced story