

Networks and trajectories of an intellectual elite: Resonance of the traditionalist thought of *Fiducia* group-magazine (1962-1966)

Redes y trayectorias de una élite intelectual: Resonancia del pensamiento tradicionalista del grupo-revista *Fiducia* (1962-1966)

Javier Molina-Johannes 

Facultad de Filosofía y Humanidades, Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile (jmolina.joh@gmail.com)

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Background

During the period that began with the Cuban Revolution (1959) and ended with the dictatorships in the Southern Cone, Chile experienced a whirlwind of transforming socio-political milestones such as the promotion of community organizations, social participation and union organizations; approval of the gradual purchase of 51% of the main copper mines and the enactment of the Agrarian Reform. In this context, emerged the magazine *Fiducia* (1962-1966) published by an elite group. This group was inspired by the principles of Plínio Corrêa de Oliveira, especially in his work “Revolution and Counter-revolution” (1959). The fiducians were very critical of the Christian-democratic government; they saw its political reforms as a catastrophe of Civilization. They became one of the most important enemies of Marxism and one of the main obstacles for other’s Christian positions, which is why they lead a radicalization of different rights. In summary, *Fiducia* was one of the most important anticommunist groups in the second part of the XX century in Latin America.

Aims

This article describes networks and trajectories of people related to this magazine. In this work, we explore the trajectory of some members, such as Jaime Guzmán Errázuriz, Jaime Antúnez Aldunate and others fiducians, in order to illustrate the connections between this group and other powers. For this reason, at first, we reviewed the formation of the magazine. Then, we expose the position of the group about the Agrarian reform, and how they defend private property in the collective documents. We describe some actions of the group to stop the reforms and to spread these ideas in Chilean society, particularly through the elite.

Method & procedures

Under a qualitative approach, we analyze collective documents of the group; through them we glimpse its field of action, its dispute for/within the present and its supporting media and institutions. We evidence some biographical aspects of the fiducians to analyze how this community thought became political and academic elite, and then we review the literature about the notions.

Results & discussion

The studied trajectories evidenced the fiducian discourse resonance in the implementation of the Chilean dictatorial regime and its influence in the socio-political field. We observe how this community of traditionalist thought became political and academic elite, and from the literature, we problematize elite notions. In this way, Guzmán is one of the most important persons to know the connection between this group and the dictatorship because he determined the implementation of the regime politics. Through others fiducian members we review trajectories and networks, for example, the connection with the cultural power or how they will create institutions or academic influence. Then, this community of traditional thought promotes a counter-revolutionary crusade, to defend private property and what they know as Tradition, also some Catholic vital aspects. That’s why we evidence of their influence in some

academic, political, and religious institutions. Especially with some elements of their counter-revolutionary principles. For example, we can analyze how the subsidiarity or the notion of person in the Chilean Constitution (1980) could have an important connection with this thought.

Conclusion

In summary, we review the Fiducia magazine and the resonance of the traditionalist thought in Chile between 1962 and 1966. It implies analyzing the constitution of a community of thought, together with the dissemination networks and the trajectory of its members. Then, we describe the intellectual elite, the networks and how its trajectories and thought influence Chilean society. For that, under a qualitative approach, we analyze the collective documents of the group, to know how it disputes the present, and its supporting discourse and institutions.

Keywords: Chile, intellectual elite, networks, traditionalism, trajectories

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