Brenda LeFrancois - Online Journal Publishing as a Virtual Fortress of Resistance

This paper addressed online publishing as a tool for resistance against the psychiatric regime. That is, the opening of a virtual space for alternative discourses in psychology and mental health in an open-access online journal is discussed. The ways in which this type of tool can gain legitimacy and popularity, and hence support the greater resistance effort, through traditional approaches such as using the peer review system and academic affiliation was considered. This is one avenue for survivors to create alliances with progressive academics in order to work together toward effecting change globally. Using the journal Radical Psychology: A Journal of Psychology, Politics and Radicalism as a case example, this presentation took the audience through an examination of the technical, editorial and reviewing tasks associated with managing an online journal. Moreover, the ways in which this journal - as well as the development of similar vehicles for the dissemination of alternative knowledge in mental health - may contribute to the resistance was considered.