

Abstracts

Maria Syväniemi
Images of Child Auctioning. Experiences in Foster Care as a Remembered Process

This article examines the experiences of pauper children in 1920s and 1930s Finland and is based on two oral history interviews and the interviewees' family photos. The article discusses the Finnish pauper system within the history of foster care from the perspective of history of experience, utilizes the method of close reading from microhistory, and analyses the interplay of photographs and memory-based sources. Children's experiences of poverty and intergenerational consequences are at the centre of the discussion, and the article also highlights narratives related to a sense of safety. As their legacy, these children have carried silence and shame but also trust in the future and turned to humour as a coping mechanism.

Ainur Elmgren
The Bavautdin Case. Legal Protection for "Aliens" in Finland in 1920

This microhistorical study examines a 1920 case of a foreigner being allowed to remain in Finland after successfully appealing the deportation order issued by the Finnish Ministry of the Interior. Although the case of the Tatar merchant Husnetdin Bavautdin's successful appeal was exceptional, its study helps construct a more comprehensive understanding of deportation in this era. I research the causes, consequences, and continuities of the case. This study reveals how targeting foreigners with security measures ("securitization") could lead to grassroots-level corruption, although the rule of law ultimately prevailed. The study demonstrates that even non-citizens had access to resources

to demand justice, and that they employed a variety of methods to defend their rights, even adopting the discourse of securitization.

Sami Koskelainen
New Clubs for a New Era. Finnish Men's Football Club Mergers in the 1990s as Expressions of Socio-Political Change

Sports reflect their societal and temporal context. This article examines Finnish men's football club mergers in the 1990s, analysing them as a product of the decade's socio-political developments. It focuses on a merged club in Mikkeli, using the archives of the Football Association of Finland and the regional newspaper Länsi-Savo. Consolidating local resources into one team was expected to save time and money while enabling a more efficient pursuit of sporting success. Mergers also replaced separate working- and middle-class clubs, a division seen as outdated for a modern, professional sport. However, merged clubs struggled to win over the loyalties of local fans, and the promised economic and athletic gains often failed to materialise. Many of these clubs were dissolved within a few years, revealing that mergers were a product of their times rather than the future of football.
