Abstract

This paper is a product of the study in the line of research of Social and Human Development of the Doctorate in Sustainable Development at the Manizales University. It is founded on the concept that development is rooted in the notion of progress and is an update of such progress, which has been one of the central motivations of Western societies during the modern era. The theoretical constructs that were developed using it as a central axis fall within the fundamental conceptions that have dominated life and thought in the West, especially following the Second World War. Thus, this article offers clarification on the general concept of development based on the premise of critical perspective proposed by Adorno and Horkheimer. Furthermore, a critical reading is done from different perspectives on sustainable development, in an attempt not to assume the definition of sustainable development by only explaining its instrumental rationality.

Keywords

Concept development, sustainable development, critical perspective.