RELATIONAL DIMENSION OF WELCOME

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This paper is structured in the form of theoretical construction at the interface between Psychology, tourism and human/social development. The construction theorizes on the psychological nature of tourism and on a new concept of welcome, distinct from pragmatic perspectives and philosophical contributions in the area. The concept changes the current understanding of the process of hosting, defining it as a phenomenon resulting from the dialectical interaction between the desire of the host and the desire of the guest in a relational frame in which both take turns at the poles of the relationship. From basic tools of the theoretical framework of Psychoanalysis, primarily Bionian guidance, the text offers reflections from the assumption that in the hosting context get into action all phenomena that subsidize the growth of man in the process of psychosocial development.

KEY WORDS: tourism, psychology, reception