

Editorial

Anita Gulczyńska	2
------------------------	---

Articles

Victor Otieno Okech: A Literature Review on the Roles of Social Factors in the Etiology of Dissocial/Antisocial Behaviours in Children and Adolescents	5
Christian Spatscheck: Quality of Life and Well-Being – Tasks for Social Work?	18
Lenka Divoká: Professionalization of Child Protection in the Czech Republic from the Perspective of Sociological Theories	30
Anna Jarkiewicz: Professionalization of Social Work with “Mentally Disturbed People” – Analysis from the Interpretative Perspective	48
Tomáš Waloszek: Controversial Issues of Research Methodology Taking into Account Social Work	58
Shelley Briggs, Mark Foord: Food Banks and the Transformation of British Social Welfare	72

Book Reviews

Eva Hvizdová and Beáta Balogová: Creative Industry of Selected Handicrafts in Eastern Slovakia. Mainz: Logophon, 2016.	87
Patricia Hill Collins and Sirma Bilge: Intersectionality. Cambridge, Malden: John Wiley & Sons, 2016.	89

Research Notes

Research Activities of Sociotherapy at the Faculty of Arts, University of Prešov	91
The Professional Identity in Narratives of Family Assistants – Characteristics of Research	92
Call for Papers	95
Our Mission	96



A Literature Review on the Roles of Social Factors in the Etiology of Dissocial/Antisocial Behaviours in Children and Adolescents

Victor Otieno Okech

Victor Otieno Okech¹ is an internal doctoral student researching behavioural problems in children and adolescents at the Institute of Social Studies and Therapeutic Education, Comenius University in Bratislava.

Abstract

Etiology of dissocial/antisocial behaviours in children and adolescents has been of concern since time immemorial. Various attempts have been made to classify and establish factors that causes them. They are widely classified as Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD) and Conduct disorders (CD). The aim of this article is to offer an overview of the present understanding of ODD and CD, examine symptomatic differences between the two disorders as well as social factors that cause them. A narrative approach is used in reviewing and describing current literature on these social factors based on three thematic areas: Child deficit factors, Family factors and Environmental factors. We found social factors that cause these behavioural problems to be family composition, mental health status of their parents, marital conflicts, nature of the relationship between parents and their children, parenting styles, peer influence, and problematic neighbourhoods. We conclude that social factors contribute to the development of dissocial/antisocial behavioural problems in children and adolescents.

Keywords

antisocial behaviour, dissocial behaviour, conduct disorder, oppositional defiant, etiology

Introduction

Dissocial/Antisocial behaviours in children and adolescents have been of great concern since time immemorial, especially among religious personalities, policy makers and scientists. Though each of these groups have had divergent views on their etiologies, they all conclude that some of these behaviours are socially appropriate while others are not. Socially appropriate behaviours are those behaviours that conform to societal norms, while the inappropriate fail to conform to the societal norms and expectation to the extent of disrupting the normal child to child or child to parent relationships. Throughout developmental stages, all children and adolescents experience or display socially inappropriate behaviours occasionally. They become of concern to scientists,

¹ Contact: Victor Otieno Okech, Comenius University in Bratislava, Institute of Social Studies and Therapeutic Education, Šoltésvej 4, 811 08 Bratislava, Slovakia; okech1@uniba.sk



Quality of Life and Well-Being – Tasks for Social Work?

Christian Spatscheck

Prof. Dr. Christian Spatscheck¹, Professor for Theories and Methods of Social Work at the Faculty of Social Sciences of Hochschule Bremen, City University of Applied Sciences. Visiting Scholar at Lund University, Visiting Professor at Pisa University. Main research interests: theories and methods of social work and social pedagogy, especially spatial and systemic approaches, youth work, social development and international social work.

Abstract

Social work refers to the concept of well-being in its Global Definition. Yet social work as discipline and profession has yet to fully discover the existing concepts and empirical research on quality of life and well-being. This article aims to reflect and systematize the main developments and approaches to define quality of life and well-being. Finally, it provides first considerations of what this new knowledge base could offer to social work theory and practice.

Keywords

quality of life, well-being, social work, good life, ethical aspects

1. Quality of life and well-being: A theme in popular and academic discourses

Currently the search for ‘the good life’ has become a popular topic in many societies. For individuals the quest for gaining a good balance of regular activities and their search for sense, purpose and contentment has become a frequently debated theme. And on a collective level, magazines on the virtues of ‘country life’ and ‘happiness’ are some of the most popular print titles, movements of downshifting and downgrading rediscover the idea of ‘small is beautiful’, work life meets ‘Generation Y’ asking for more sense and fulfilment in occupation, groups of slow food or slow cities (città slow) try to de-accelerate life, and an ongoing interest in the diverse forms of inner search, counselling and spiritual approaches can be realised. These developments also find their manifestation in a variety of new initiatives, be they for urban gardening, networks of the sharing economy, transition towns, groups for upcycling, repair cafés, and makers’ activities.

But ‘the good life’ has also become a relevant topic for the social sciences. In psychology, philosophy and health studies, whole research groups are working in the fields of happiness research, positive

¹ Contact: Prof. Dr. Christian Spatscheck, Dr. phil., Dipl.Paed, Dipl.Soz.Arb., Hochschule Bremen, City University of Applied Sciences, Faculty of Social Sciences, Neustadtswall 30, D-28199 Bremen, Germany; christian.spatscheck@hs-bremen.de, www.christian-spatscheck.de



Professionalization of Child Protection in the Czech Republic from the Perspective of Sociological Theories

Lenka Divoká

Dr. Lenka Divoká¹ studied Social Research and Social Policy at Bangor University in the United Kingdom and currently lectures at the College of Social Work in Olomouc. Her main teaching and research interests are in the area of social research methods, monitoring and evaluation, and professionalization of social and community work.

Abstract

This article is an excerpt from the author's doctoral thesis *The Social Work Profession in the Czech Republic* completed in 2016. The thesis was based on an empirical research of social work studied from the perspective of the sociology of the professions. Social work has been described as a semi-profession by many authors and social workers often feel they are viewed as second-rate professionals. The research examined such views, using a conceptual framework which combines elements of neo-Weberian, neo-institutional and traits theories. There were two main research questions: how do social workers describe the current state of their profession, and how do they describe the pathways to enhanced professionalisation? The design of the research was a case study focusing on the field of child protection. The results showed that social work in the Czech Republic has not accomplished the autonomy of the established professions. Nevertheless, the profession has acquired some important advantages in the labour market, including a degree of market closure as described in the neo-Weberian theory of professionalisation. Contrary to the general perspective of the authors in the sociology of social work, social work in the Czech Republic was found to be a fast-developing and flexible profession responsive to current conditions.

Keywords

Czech Republic, neo-Weberian theory, neo-institutional theory, professions, social work, traits theory

1. Introduction

The paramount aim of the thesis research conducted from 2010 to 2012 was to observe the current state of development of the social work profession in the Czech Republic. It sought to identify the current achievements and issues facing the profession, and understand the significant strategies that social work professions employ in order to enhance their professional position within the system of child protection.

The research also aimed to draw on the perspectives of social work professionals, and to that end it considers their experience of everyday working life as a valid account of the reality of the

¹ Contact: Mgr. Lenka Divoká, Ph.D., CARITAS – College of Social Work Olomouc, Nám. Republiky 3, 779 00 Olomouc, Czech Republic; lenka.divoka@caritas-vos.cz



Professionalization of Social Work with “Mentally Disturbed People” – Analysis from the Interpretative Perspective

Anna Jarkiewicz

Dr. Anna Jarkiewicz¹ is a social pedagogue, researcher and lecturer at the University of Łódź, whose main field of interests include social work with the socially excluded, socio-cultural perspective, interpretive assessment, qualitative research, author of articles on social work with “mentally disturbed” persons, empowerment, pedagogization of social life.

Abstract

The article contains the conclusions from my research which concerns the professionalization of social work with “mentally disturbed clients, and had been done for six months in the Municipal Social Welfare Centre. This time gave me an opportunity to participate, as an observer, in social workers’ everyday life, and to get to know them better. In my studies I adopted grounded theory research.

Keywords

professionalization, social work, mentally disturbed clients

Professionalization of social work in Poland

In Poland, professionalism in social work, or the lack thereof is the subject of much debate. The constantly discussed problems concern substantive, methodological, and ethical issues, problems of institutionalization and conditions of educating future practitioners of social work (Trawkowska, 2006; Kromolicka, 2011; Szmagałski, 2012; Niesporek, Trembaczowski, Warczok, 2013). The debate on this subject has been carried out continuously since the 1990’s. Thus far no solutions have been revealed that would bring us any closer to reaching a final resolution (Wódz, 1999; Granosik, 2006; Frysztański, 2008; Szmagałski, 2011). Positions that have been formed during this time, can be arranged by referring to the division proposed by Thomas P. Wilson (1973) who, in the search for answers to the question fundamental for social sciences about the basis of social order, made a distinction between the normative and interpretative paradigm. As the name suggests, the first paradigm sees the sources of social order in the sphere of norms. The representatives of this approach who participated in the discussion about professionalism of social work include Abraham Flexner (1915) and Ernest Greenwood (1957). Both of these authors, when speaking about profession, emphasize the need to meet certain criteria, such as systematic theory, authority, code of ethics, autonomy, social mandate, etc. These positions are often referred

¹ Contact: Anna Jarkiewicz, PhD., Department of Social Pedagogy, Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Lodz, 48/46 Pomorska, 91-408 Łódź, Poland; anna_jarkiewicz@poczta.onet.pl



Controversial Issues of Research Methodology Taking into Account Social Work

Tomáš Waloszek

Tomáš Waloszek¹ is a student of the doctoral study programme of Social Work at the Faculty of Social Studies at the University of Ostrava. He teaches courses related to Social Policy, and was a main coordinator of the project “Innovation of Social Policy at Faculty of Social Studies at the University of Ostrava”.

Abstract

This theoretical study deals with the methodology of social sciences in the context of social work. These areas discuss the findings, and the issues of methodology of science are applied to social work. The aim of this paper is to find and to highlight the research limits, barriers and gaps that arise from research in social work. The author presents controversial issues: four broader problems of science methodology that he incorporates into the broader framework of social work.

Keywords

methodology of science, research, social work, social constructivism, induction, efficiency, public sector, alternative theories

Introduction

The presented theoretical study comes from the “*methodology of social sciences*” sphere, from the “*social work*” field. In this work, the methodological findings will be applied to the field of social work. This application itself brings many questions: “*Do we encounter any problems when researching social work? Do we see any limits? What kinds of controversial questions emerge?*” With this treatise, we would like to provide answers.

This is a study that draws attention to the shortcomings of, or controversial questions related to the methodology of research in the social work field. The different authors or methodologists only point towards particular shortcomings, but there is not a lot written on the topic of social work. What is the nature of the barriers and disputable affairs of the conducted or proposed research?

The goal of this theoretical study is to find the problematic aspects of research strategies that can appear during the investigation of several fields of social work. The apparent goal of this study is to answer a question, which is “*Are there any controversial questions and limits that influence results of research in the field of social work?*” Thus, we will try to think about the limits of research and

¹ Contact: Mgr. et Mgr. Tomáš Waloszek, Faculty of Social Studies, University of Ostrava, Fr. Šrámka 3, Ostrava–Mariánské Hory, 709 00, Czech Republic; tomas.waloszek@osu.cz



Food Banks and the Transformation of British Social Welfare

Shelley Briggs, Mark Foord

Shelley Briggs¹ has taught Social Work and Social Policy at the University of Central Lancashire since January 2009, and before that at DeMontfort University. Prior to working in higher education she worked in mental health clinical practice in Canada and criminal justice Social Work in Scotland. She has diverse research interests in Comparative Social Policy; gender issues, community work and mental health.

Mark Foord² taught Social Policy at the University of Central Lancashire from 2004 until August 2017. Prior to that, he worked at the Centre for Housing and Urban Studies, University of Salford. He has research interests around Comparative Social Policy; community work; homelessness, and adult social care.

Abstract

Since the mid-1970's, the British social welfare system has undergone a process of radical transformation. There are seminal moments in this journey, most recently the 2015 election of a transformative Conservative administration, driven by a deep anti-state ideology which attempted to cut welfare, diminish the public realm and re-define Britain's relationship with Europe. To fill the hiatus left by spending cuts, the development of voluntary ('Big Society') community initiatives was encouraged. The food bank movement provides an important exemplar of the nexus of state withdrawal, precariousness and voluntarism. In many parts of Britain, food banks have become the defacto welfare safety net, offering emergency assistance and personalised support, delivered by volunteers. As such, food banks provide insights into the future shape of British welfare provision. This paper maps the development, impact and scope of food banks in Britain; it argues support for voluntarism is driven by a desire to enact forms of welfare intervention based on conditionality and mistrust of cash based welfare. It concludes by arguing that whilst the Neo-liberal vision for food banks is embedded in an anti-welfare agenda, food banks have the potential to develop as discursive community spaces offering care, support and social action.

Keywords

social welfare transformation, precariousness, food banks, voluntary action

¹ Contact: Shelley Briggs, School of Social Work, Care & Community, Harrington Building, University of Central Lancashire, Preston, PR1 2HE, United Kingdom; sbriggs2@uclan.ac.uk

² Contact: Mark Foord, Daxecker Str. 2, 4952, Weng im Innkreis, Austria; markfoord@ymail.com