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7th – 8th of November 2019

BOOK OF ABSTRACT

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VEGA project „Identification of manifestation of social riskiness of families in selected indicators and their impact on social functioning of families“ (VEGA 1/0341/17)

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

DAY 1 | Thursday | November 07, 2019

09:00 – 10:00 Registration

10:00 – 10:30 Welcome and Introductions

10:30 – 11:30 ***New Trends in Modern Society and The Influence on New Generation***

Iveta Radicová, Slovak Republic

11:30 – 12:30 ***Diversity and Education: How can we Reach All Children in Educational Settings?***

Barbara Gasteiger Klicpera, Austria

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

13:40 – 14:40 ***Intervention with Children and Families in the Community: the Polish Experience***

Katarzyna Pawelek, Joanna Rajewska de Mezer, Poland

14:40- 15:00 Coffee Break

15:00 – 17:30 WORKSHOPS I - IV

WORKSHOP I (15:00 - 16:00)

Petra Anna-Marie Blahová

/University of Ostrava (Czech Republic)/

Interventions of Social Work in the Situation of Young People Preparing to Leave Children's Homes

Adéla Mojžíšová

/University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice (Czech Republic)/

Limits of Relative Foster Care

Jutta H. Harrer

/Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt & University of Ostrava (Germany)/

Multimodal Acting in Integrated Family Services in Germany

Alena Mátejová

/Office of the Commissioner for Children (Slovakia)/

The Best Interests of the Child and its Application in Social Work

WORKSHOP II (15:00 - 16:00)

Monika Chrenková, Kateřina Čilečková

/University of Ostrava (Czech Republic)/

Outcomes of Survey of Form of Participation of Minors in the Proceedings Regarding their Upbringing and Maintenance

Tatiana Matulayová

/Palacký University Olomouc (Czech Republic)/

Prevention in Primary Schools in the Czech Republic - The Scope for a School Social Worker?

Alexandr Lepin

/Southern Federal University (Russia)/

Invisible Men: Young Male as a Subject of Social Work

Andrej Kállay

/Office of the Commissioner for Children (Slovakia)/

Monitoring of the Rights of the Child in Institutional Facilities for Children

WORKSHOP III (16:15 - 17:30)

Karen Mills, Fenix Cornejo

/University of Hertfordshire / The West London Alliance (England)/

Partnership in Education: how the University of Hertfordshire/West London Alliance Step up to Social Work Programme meets the challenges of contemporary children's social work

Joanna Rajewska de Mezer

/University of Adam Mickiewicz in Poznań (Poland)/

The Place of Family Mediation as a Form of Support and Protection of the Child's Good in Social Assistance Activities

Natália Valúchová, Patricia Dobříková, Eva Mydlíková

/Trnava university of Trnava (Slovakia)/

The Effect of Attachment to the Child's Development in Relation to Psychopathology

WORKSHOP IV (16:15 - 17:30)

Anna Krausová, Klára Ganobjaková, Barbora Bruzková, Kateřina Pátková

/University of Ostrava (Czech Republic)/

How is Living for People with Disabilities in (social) Housing in Ostrava?

Małgorzata Kostrzyńska

/University of Lodz (Poland)/

"Homeful – Homeless" Box as an Innovative Way of Working with Family Experiencing Homelessness

Anastasia Karpunina

/Russian State Social University (Russia)/

Social Contracts as a Technology of Social Work with Risk Families in Russia

19:00 Evening Reception

DAY 2 | Friday | November 08, 2019

09:00 – 10:30 WORKSHOPS V – VI

WORKSHOP V (09:00 - 10:30)

Eva Klimentová, Vít Dočekal

/Palacký University Olomouc (Czech Republic)/

Parenthood of Deaf Parents of Hearing Children

Katarína Molnárová Letovancová, Veronika Schmidtová, Jaroslav Slaný
/Trnava university in Trnava (Slovakia)/

Influence of Child disability on Sibling Relationships in the Family

Michaela Hromková, Miriam Slaná
/Trnava university in Trnava (Slovakia)/

Early Childhood Intervention in Slovakia: Research Findings

Anita Gulczyńska
/University of Lodz (Poland)/

Parental Strategies to Prevent Neighborhood Effects in Children. The Case of Disadvantaged Downtown Neighborhood in Lodz

Andrea Vašková, Soňa Lovašová
/Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice (Slovakia)/

Social Work and Virtual Social Community in Children and Youth (Poster)

Katarína Šišanská, Eva Žiaková
/Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice (Slovakia)/

Social Work in Children Diagnosed with Cancer (Poster)

WORKSHOP VI (09:00 - 10:30)

Brian Littlechild
/University of Hertfordshire (England)/

Empowering Involvement in Child - Protection Processes - Balancing the Rights of Parents and Children in Terms of Having their Voices Heard

Ondrej Botek
/Trnava University in Trnava (Slovakia)/
Violence vs Punishments in Children with Impairment and or Abused Neglect

Gerda Didžklapytė
/Kolping University of Applied Sciences (Lithuania)/
The Experiences of Fatherhood in the Development of a Child with Complex Disabilities

Ramune Bagdonaite-Stelmokiene
/Kolping University of Applied Sciences, Vytautas Magnus University (Lithuania)/
“I Became a Different Person”: Personal Change of Foster Parents through the Experience of Fostering

Eva Mydlíková, Peter Patyi, Denisa Vargová, Ľubica Nicolussi
/Trnava University in Trnava (Slovakia)/
Rapid Tests for Early Diagnosis of CAN syndrome

Dominika Lisá
/Trnava University in Trnava (Slovakia)/
Physical Punishment of Children (Poster)

Andrea Bánovčinová
/Trnava University in Trnava (Slovakia)/
Material and Structural Conditions of Child - Protection (Poster)

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:00 *Comparative Approach of Unaccompanied Minors in Europe*
Emmanuel Jovelin, France

12:00 – 13:00 *Challenges of Child Protection: Czech Perspective*
Hana Pazlarová, Czech Republic

13:00 Closing speech

13:30 Lunch

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Katarzyna Pawelek, Joanna Rajewska de Mezer

Adam Mickiewicz University

Poznań, Poland

Intervention with Children and Families in the Community: the Polish Experience

Abstract

The family as the smallest nuclear family, performing a number of important functions, also in the process of socialization, is autonomous. It makes decisions about its functioning independently. Formal intervention in the autonomy of family is justified by diagnosing circumstances that prove its inefficiency, the inability to satisfy its needs using its own competences or resources, the appearance of actions that harm the well-being of a family member (eg domestic violence). This intervention is particularly important when it is directed at children too. It may be carried out, in legally justified situations, by legally authorized entities, such as social assistance system, family and juvenile courts, court guard, police, school, health care system, etc. They are required to cooperate in the process of supporting the individual and / or family. The above-mentioned intervention may take various forms, for example psychological, legal, financial, medical or social work. The aim of the presentation is to show selected forms of interactions / interventions undertaken by entities of the social welfare system in Poland towards the family in order to protect the child's good.

Key words: family; children; social welfare system.

Petra Anna-Marie Blahová

University of Ostrava

Ostrava, Czech Republic

Interventions of Social Work in the Situation of Young People Preparing to Leave Children's Homes

Abstract

This article deals with the question of interventions of social work in the situation of young people preparing for the departure from institutions of children's homes to the natural social environment. The situation of young people leaving institutions of children's homes is difficult, as evidenced by researches that show a higher risk of social problems for these people, with young people's emerging adulthood being viewed as a risky and vulnerable period (European Expert Group , 2012; Lumos, 2017; Frimpong-Manso, 2018). In the substitute care system in the Czech Republic, the placement in the children's home is secondary to family care. Social work with vulnerable young people in a children's home concentrates mainly on performing indirect social work activities. The aim of the research part of the article is to understand and describe interventions of social work in the situation of preparation for the departure of young people from

institutions of chosen children's homes from the POV of social and educational workers who participate on preparing children.

Key words: care leavers; interventions of social work; children's homes departure/leaving; institutional care; deinstitutionalisation.

Adela Mojžíšová

University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice

České Budějovice, Czech Republic

Limits of Relative Foster Care

Abstract

At present, family foster care is one of the types of foster care. Most of the children are currently entrusted to the Czech Republic in foster care and care of another person under the applicable Civil Code. Thus, the law favors the custody of a child in foster care or other care of a loved one before the adoption of the child if the child is to be adopted without the consent of the parents. Based on her experience of leading supervision for social workers, the author of the paper will present the outputs of her work in relation to the limits of foster care from the perspective of social workers, foster parents and other accompanying organizations.

Key words: foster care; children; family; social work; law.

Jutta H. Harrer

Katholische Universität Eichstätt / Universität Ostrava

Eichstätt, Deutschland

Multimodal Acting in Integrated Family Services in Germany

Abstract

In the last decade in social work literature you can find the claim about methodological pluralism in case work more and more often (cf. Krauß 2006, p. 127). This claim means that social workers are using different methods during the process with clients to get optimal results for them. But there are also critical aspects: methodology pluralism opens the field for specialized methods which don't have an overvalue for the clients but could serve as status for social workers (cf. ibid.). A comparable concept in medicine and deduced in psychology is called multimodality. Multimodality is based on the idea that there is a planned and structural use of different methods to get an optimal result for the clients (cf. Tolman, Rose 1985). The concept is suitable for complexity and tries to accommodate this by using different modules or methods. Recently there is no research about which methods and techniques are used in the field of integrated family services

and how the practitioners are planning the fielding methods. Hence, it isn't clear if the concept of multimodality already exists in the field of practice.

Key words: PhD-Project; child care; multimodal acting; methods; integrated family services.

Alena Mátejková

Úrad komisára pre deti

Bratislava, Slovak Republic

The Best Interests of the Child and its Application in Social Work

Abstract

The purpose of the paper is not a theoretical legal analysis of the principle "the best interests of the child", but an effort to point out the application of this primary aspect of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child from the social work perspective. All judicial and administrative decisions concerning the child should be made with the best interest of the child. Potential conflicts between the best interests of the child and the individual rights of others must be addressed case by-case, the child's best interests must be a primary consideration. In order to protect the children rights is generally essential multidisciplinary cooperation in all matters relating the child.

Key words: child; primary consideration; best interest of the child; social work.

Monika Chrenková, Kateřina Čilečková

University of Ostrava

Ostrava, Czech Republic

***Outcomes of Survey of Form of Participation of Minors in the Proceedings
Regarding their Upbringing and Maintenance***

Abstract

Our contribution introduces outcomes of survey realised two years ago. The content of realised survey is based on quantitative research aimed to answer the research question: How do minors participate in the legal proceedings regarding their upbringing and maintenance and, simultaneously, to which degree are their views taken into account by the court? The research is rooted in two key concepts – child participation and the form of their participation outgoing of legislative and professional legal literature. The research sample was made up of court decisions involving the upbringing and maintenance of minors, and finally and firmly terminated in 2015 and 2016 at two district courts in the Moravian-Silesian Region in the Czech Republic. The content analysis of documents was used to collect the data. The outcomes of one-dimensional data analysis bring interesting

and often alarming findings that are in conflict with valid legislation, but they often confirm the rigid Czech judiciary practice in the area of decision-making when it comes to the upbringing of a minor.

Key words: minors; participation; legal proceedings; upbringing; maintenance.

Tatiana Matulayová

Palacký University Olomouc

Olomouc, Česká republika

Prevention in Primary Schools in the Czech Republic - The Scope for a School Social Worker?

Abstract

In the Czech Republic, prevention system is very confusing and fragmented, competent institutions and departments do not cooperate sufficiently. A primary school, implementing school prevention of a risk behavior, is an important prevention stakeholder. The goal is to prevent the occurrence of risk behaviors and to minimize their impact. Schools usually create their own minimum prevention program, implemented mainly by their teachers. At each school, there is a teacher, responsible for methodology of prevention there. In some schools, school psychologists or special educators are working too. A social worker / social pedagogue work position is not defined by any legal act. The aim of the multi-case study is to better understand the system of prevention of socially pathological phenomena at the second level of primary schools and to find out whether there is a lack of school social work in those schools. The results indicate at the system level the unclear role of a school methodologist of prevention, excessive administrative burden and lack of financial resources to introduce the position of a school social worker in each primary school.

Key words: school social work - prevention system.

Alexandr Lepin

Southern Federal University

Rostov-on-Don, Russia

Invisible Men: Young Male as a Subject of Social Work

Abstract

The aim of this work is to draw attention to social work with men. The number of researchers studying men and young men as special target customers of social services is still small both in Russia and abroad. Young males as separate social work subjects are

«invisible» as they are traditionally viewed just as representatives of big social groups of youngsters (students, youth subcultures, risk groups).

Key words: men; young males; youth; gender; gender studies; social work with men.

Andrej Kállay

Úrad komisára pre deti
Bratislava, Slovak Republic

Monitoring of the Rights of the Child in Institutional Facilities for Children

Abstract

Based on the target of the Commissioner for Children is the monitoring of the rights of the child one of the main activity of the Commissioner. The monitoring was started in 2017 and is focused on all institutional facilities for children in Slovakia. The initial monitoring document is the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was ratified in 1989. In the past, monitoring of the rights of the child at the national level has not been carried out in Slovakia and therefore outputs of the monitoring will be important for the political level and for the practice. We obtain data by questionnaire method, group interviews and observation. Data collection is ongoing and systematic processing will start in 2020.

Key words: monitoring; rights of the child; institutional facilities for children.

Karen Mills, Fenix Cornejo

University of Hertfordshire / West London Alliance
London, United Kingdom

***Partnership in Education: how the University of Hertfordshire/West London Alliance
Step up to Social Work Programme meets the challenges of contemporary children's
social work***

Abstract

Following the death of Peter Connelly in 2007, the UK government reviewed the quality of social work education. The Social Work Task Force recommended an overhaul of social work to enhance the quality of entrants to children's social work, improve the fitness for first practice of newly qualified SWs and reduce the high levels of staff turnover. Key to these changes was the introduction of a fast track programme for high calibre students. Employer control was central to the shift and the introduction of the new Step up to Social Work programme was controversial. Step up to Social Work is ten years old. The University of Hertfordshire has delivered the programme with West London Alliance since its inception. Our paper explores the evolution of this partnership: shifting

from a purchaser-provider model to deeper collaboration, critical friendship and mutual trust. We examine the factors contributing to the success of the project, the extent to which this model is successful in supporting students, stretching new social workers and delivering on the original intention to 'lift the whole profession and be felt in every setting' (Social Work Task Force, 2009: 67).

Key words: partnership; social work education; children; Step up to Social Work.

Joanna Rajewska de Mezer

Adam Mickiewicz University

Poznań, Poland

The Place of Family Mediation as a Form of Support and Protection of the Child's Good in Social Assistance Activities

Abstract

Mediation is a form of out-of-court conflict solution. It is a voluntary, confidential procedure, conducted by an impartial and neutral mediator, whose task is to help in communication and facilitate it. Divorce cause a number of negative effects both for the parting partners and their minor children. For the child, the separation of parents and the conflict between them is a traumatic experience affected its mental and social functioning. Mediation concerning the regulation of the child's affairs (a place of residence, relations with the other parent) allows for protection of the child. The mediator supports parents in their search for a solution. Mediation proceedings are increasingly undertaken on the grounds of social assistance. Most of social assistance entities in Poland offer clients a free mediation procedure. Mediation is called the "method or instrument of social work". It is used in fixing conflicts of various interpersonal, organizational and legal nature. For social work in the environment its interpersonal dimension is important. It allows finding alternative ways of resolving conflicts between family members, between neighbors and members of the local community.

Key words: mediation; social assistance; mediation procedure; child's right.

Natália Valúchová, Patricia Dobříková, Eva Mydlíková

Trnava University in Trnava

Trnava, Slovak Republic

The Effect of Attachment to the Child's Development in Relation to Psychopathology

Abstract

A satisfactory child interaction with a relationship person is an essential supposition for a child's healthy psycho-social development and even affects his physical health. The deprivation of the relationship needs leads to various problems in attachment, which are

manifested through a variety of maladaptive expressions in child. Many researches have shown the relationship of attachment with psychopathology. Attachment theory affords a framework for understanding, how early relationships affects processes, that are key to psychopathology. The aim of the paper is to bring theoretical and research findings in this area with the aim to explain various manifestations of psychopathology in childhood through the perspective of attachment theory.

The article was elaborated within the project VEGA 1/0341/17 „Identification of Manifestation of Social Riskiness of Families in Selected Indicators and Their Impact on Social Functioning of Families“, project APVV-16-205 „Identification of mechanisms for early diagnosis CAN syndrome“ and project APVV -14-0646 Analysis of social service needs in the field of early intervention in Slovakia”.

Key words: attachment; attachment theory; family relationships; traumatization; psychopathology.

Anna Krausová, Klára Ganobjáková, Barbora Bruzková, Kateřina Pátková

University of Ostrava
Ostrava, Czech Republic

How is Living for People with Disabilities in (social) Housing in Ostrava?

Abstract

The contribution is based on the research project (SGS04/FSS/2019) which is called: “How is living for people with disabilities in (social) housing in Ostrava?” We focused on 2 target groups which are people with physical disabilities and people with mental disabilities. Among these persons in research are young adult persons (around 20 years old) who are just at the beginning of their adulthood. Some of them are quite “dependent on” support and care of parents. Some of them are clients of social work or at least thinking about it. Some persons are interested in social housing. In “The Concept of Social Housing of the Statutory City of Ostrava” and “The Concept of Social Housing of the Czech Republic 2015-2025” is mentioned that the list of target groups includes people with disabilities. But it is a question of how those people are/can be supported in social housing in Ostrava? The research is aimed at gain an expert view-evaluation of representatives of social partners involved in solving issue of providing social housing for people with disabilities in Ostrava and gain the viewpoint of representatives of the people with disabilities themselves about the opportunities,limits of the social housing.

The contribution is based on the research project (SGS04/FSS/2019) which is called: “How is living for people with disabilities in (social) housing in Ostrava?”.

Key words: social housing; housing; mental disability; physical disability; conditions of housing.

Malgorzata Kostrzyńska

University of Lodz

Lodz, Poland

***“Homeful – Homeless” Box as an Innovative Way of Working with Family
Experiencing Homelessness***

Abstract

The aim of this presentation is to show an innovative idea for working with family “without a home” through a tool called “Homeful - Homeless” Box. It is designed to help people “without a home” to get out of homelessness as well as to help them meet their basic needs emerging on the path to stabilization. The Box is a kind of a “link” between those who are in a difficult life situation “without a home” and “homeful” persons who want to help. I perceive the work through such a tool processually for at least two reasons. First, we are able to distinguish its definite, consecutive stages. It is not possible to set rigid boundaries between them, but rather to outline some of the actions that determine a smooth transition from one stage to another. Second, cooperation of the volunteer with the project Participant requires each time individual and mutual “getting along”, adjusting, various modifications of activities, which also takes the form of an interactive process of continuous communication and negotiation. The following stages can be distinguished as part of the above-mentioned work process through the Box: initiating the contact, building relationships and “closing” the contact.

Key words: homelessness; social work; empowerment; social support.

Anastasia Karpunina

Russian State Social University

Moscow, Russia

Social Contracts as a Technology of Social Work with Risk Families in Russia

Abstract

Social work with dysfunctional families in Russia is organized according to a special algorithm. The article describes this algorithm and the procedure for all organizations involved in work with family. Social contracts is a new technology in Russian social work. State, social service and family sign a contract which contain full information about duties and rights of each side. Now it's time to analyze first results of this technology.

Key words: social contracts; deviant families; risk families; social services; social contracts; patronage.

Eva Klimentová, Vít Dočekal

Palacký University Olomouc

Olomouc, Czech Republic

Parenthood of Deaf Parents of Hearing Children

Abstract

This article shows the outcomes of the research among deaf parents of hearing children (they were adult in the time of the research). The birth of a hearing child into a deaf family brings about a specific form of psychic and social burden for the parents and the kid also. The hearing children in many of these families take the position of native translators off and into the sign language. That is considered to be inappropriate burden and responsibility. On the other hand, the parents of these children face enormous task to introduce them the hearing world, which is not available to themselves. This article shows the results of an empirical study built on a qualitative design, data was gained via half-structured interviews and the analysis followed. The research follows previous investigation of lived experience of hearing children of deaf parents (CODA) from the same authors.

Key words: deaf parents of hearing children; social impact; social threat.

Katarína Molnárová Letovancová, Veronika Schmidtová, Jaroslav Slaný

Trnava University in Trnava

Trnava, Slovak Republic

Influence of Child disability on Sibling Relationships in the Family

Abstract

In this paper we present the results of the research, which aim was to explore the nature of sibling relationships in cases where at least one of the siblings has a disability. The research sample consisted of 332 siblings of children with a disability between the ages of 6 and 45. We used a standardized valid research tool, the Sibling Perception Questionnaire, which reveals responses to disability in the following dimensions: interpersonal responses and relationships, intrapersonal survival, communication and fear of disability. Results of our research indicates relatively positive relationships of the respondents with the sibling with a disability. However, other data analyses have also revealed a negative impact of a disability on the sibling relationship in the area of the internal emotions of the respondent and communication. We investigated statistically significant differences in three dimensions: interpersonal responses and relationships, communication and fear of disability based on the age of the respondents, the age of their siblings, their place of residence and the self-governing region in which they live. Correlations were found between sibling responses to disability in all four dimensions, based on the age of the respondents, the age of their siblings and the number of siblings.

In terms of recommendations, we emphasize the need to pay increased attention to siblings of children with a disability, especially at a younger age. It is important to focus on the internal feelings of siblings, their relationships with the environment and their communication, which, according to the results of research, can negatively affect sibling relationships.

The article was elaborated within the project APVV-14-0646 „Analysis of social service needs in the field of early intervention in Slovakia” and the project KEGA E-learning training modules on the issue of early intervention in the family with a child with developmental risk (013KU-4/2019).

Key words: disability; siblings; relationship; family.

Michaela Hromková, Miriam Slaná

Trnava University in Trnava

Trnava, Slovak Republic

Early Childhood Intervention in Slovakia: Research Findings

Abstract

Contribution is focused on the topic of early childhood intervention (ECI) in Slovakia. We started to solve the project about ECI when the Service of early childhood intervention was put into practice in Slovakia from January 1st, 2014. Our main objective was to find out the real situation in the area of providing ECI in Slovakia. Based on this objective, we have defined four sub-objectives. The first partial objective was to map the current situation in the area of providing ECI services throughout Slovakia. Currently there are 7 centres and 26 ECI providers in Slovakia. An important finding was that the ECI service is based on multidisciplinary co-operation, which implies the co-operation of several ministries (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family and Ministry of Education), but still there are obstacles in coordination of services between these Ministries. The second sub-objective was to identify the needs of ECI service providers: we identified several providers' needs that varied mainly depending on the type of child's disability and family needs. All providers have consistently identified the following needs that make their performance: the need for intensive collaboration between the various professionals, the need for sufficient funding to ensure the professional composition of the ECI teams, the need for parents to participate in ECI, the need for staff training. The third objective was to identify the needs of families with children with disabilities. We identified the needs of social contacts, finance, support from family and professionals, the need to communicate a child's diagnosis, provide aftercare, inclusive education. The fourth objective was to determine the impact of ECI on developing the potential of a child with specific needs. At the individual level, ECI is successful if the child has reached the maximum possible degree of autonomy and a

reduction in dependency. At community level, the involvement of the child in the community and in the education system. We can consider as successful those service of early childhood intervention which is based on the concept of “strengthened family”. This term is defined by a number of characteristics such as parent confidence, participation and participation in decision-making processes, meeting personal needs, understanding the environment, access to resources and personal activity.

The article was elaborated within the project APVV-14-0646 „Analysis of social service needs in the field of early intervention in Slovakia” and the project KEGA E-learning training modules on the issue of early intervention in the family with a child with developmental risk (013KU-4/2019).

Key words: early childhood intervention; children with disabilities; needs of families; needs of parents.

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Parental Strategies to Prevent Neighborhood Effects in Children. The Case of Disadvantaged Downtown Neighborhood in Lodz

Abstract

Numerous research documented negative effects of growing up in urban disadvantaged neighborhoods (DN) (Crane 1991; Leventhal and Brooks-Gunn 2000, Ingoldsby and Shaw 2002, Holloway and Mulherin 2004; Warzywoda-Kruszyńska 1998, 2010 amongst others). They often conceptualize such neighborhoods as clusters of social problems inhabited by families with low social capital. This dominant deficit-based narration of DN shapes community interventions and initiatives. Their aim at protection of children from neighborhood social worlds and enhancement of institutional control over them and their parents. Even though research literature documented many variants of families resistance and parental strategies to prevent poor neighborhood effects in children (Valentine 1996; Furstenberg and team 1999; Jarret and Jefferson 1997, 2003; Pinkster F.M and Fortuijn J.D 2009), this strength-based narration of DN and their families seems to be silenced. The paper adds to strength-based narration of DN. It identifies parental strategies in narratives collected from young men who were in childhood or still are the residents of one of DNs in Lodz downtown (Poland).

Key words: disadvantaged neighborhood (DN); neighborhood effects; parental strategies; strength-based perspective.

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Social Work and Virtual Social Community in Children and Youth

Abstract

Geographical distance in today's world, in terms of communication, is not nearly such a problem as it was in the past. People have started to create communities that allow them to share similar interests or solve similar problems without any boundaries or limitations. The Internet, which has demolished these boundaries, is no longer a modern phenomenon, but it still offers new opportunities for realization and participation in virtual communities. Our aim in this paper was to point out the possibilities of social work in a virtual environment, as well as to point out the existence of different kinds of virtual social communities. We focused on virtual social communities that are created and popularized especially among children and youth, as this target group is often threatened by the negative effects of the virtual environment. There are many risks in the virtual world. The question is, how to eliminate these risks and what are the possibilities of social work in this environment. The purpose of each virtual social community is different. A common feature is the effort to establish and to maintain contact with other community members. Additionally, our goal was to show the parallel between real and virtual environments. If we want to apply social work in the virtual world too, it is necessary to perceive the child's environment dual, that means real and virtual. In such a complex developmental period, such as adolescence, the crucial factor for healthy social functioning in adulthood is the acquisition of basic communication skills and the ability to function within different social communities even before reaching adulthood.

The paper is created in the framework of the scientific research project Vega no. 1/0285/18 titled "Risk behaviour of adolescents as clients of social work due to their loneliness".

Key words: social work; virtual social community; children; youth.

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Way out from Generational Poverty through Early Childhood Interventions

Abstract

Living in poverty has a major impact on the development of a child in early childhood. The foundations of potential for school readiness, successful study and productive adult life arise precisely in early childhood. However, extreme poverty brings difficult conditions (eg. higher incidence of chronic diseases, chronic stress, etc.), which

negatively affects learning opportunities. Developmental delay in children from marginalized Roma communities is strongly manifested already after entering the first grade of primary school (lower vocabulary, speech delays, unstable family environment, increased risk of emotional problems and behavioural disorders). Delays often stay present, they perform bad at school, and subsequently do not continue their studies at secondary schools or universities. In adulthood, this significantly reduces the possibility of becoming a part of society and getting out of poverty. The vicious circle is repeated over and over. The first step there is insufficient stimulation at an early childhood, thus providing interventions during this period seems to be essential. The paper describes a project Omama, which implements an innovative method involving various elements of successful programs of psychosocial stimulation of a small child and adapts them to the conditions of life in our poor communities. The aim of the intervention is to improve all aspects of early childhood development: fine and gross motor skills, cognitive skills, socio-emotional area, language skills and communication, creativity, resilience, healthier lifestyle. The program aims to strengthen the child's and parents' self-confidence, their mutual relationship, and the child's respect for themselves and others.

The paper is created in the framework of the scientific research project Vega no. 1/0285/18 titled "Risk behaviour of adolescents as clients of social work due to their loneliness".

Key words: poverty; early childhood; stimulation; early childhood interventions; project Omama.

Brian Littlechild

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Empowering Involvement in Child – Protection Processes - Balancing the Rights of Parents and Children in Terms of Having their Voices Heard

Abstract

This presentation will examine the debates, within the UK in particular, but also within the wider European context, in relation to social work with children and families concerning how we view the rights of children to be involved in Child-Protection processes and have their voices heard independently, balanced against the rights of parents in terms of having their voices heard, and being given primacy within the processes involved in such work. The purpose of the paper is to critically discuss how we balance the rights of parents and children when these rights and interests may be in conflict, taking into account legal and ethical considerations, as well the issues of practice in terms of how we make children and parents feel included and heard in the protection process, whilst social workers also having to give priority to the most vulnerable, i.e. the

child. The dilemmas involved for social workers in such assessments and interventions will be considered, with examples of how practice might best address these issues.

Key words: child protection; the rights of children; rights of parents; social worker role.

Ondrej Botek

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Violence vs Punishments in Children with Impairment and/or Abused Neglect

Abstract

Using of punishments in families is strongly under-discussed topic in social work, as well as (often even less discussed) in substitute care. Using of punishment in children with impairment and children abused and neglected is often even less discussed due to their special conditions or experiences. Punishments are often wrongly understood as part of violence, but there are clear differences that would be discuss in this paper. Proper and accurate using of punishments could be very efficient supplemental tool for modification of behaviour. This paper discuss the rules of „right“ punishment from cognitive-behavioural point of view, especially immediacy, adequacy, conditioning, intensity, etc., as well as types and forms of punishment and possibilities of their use in particular groups of children.

The article was elaborated within the project APVV-16-205 „Identification of mechanisms for early diagnosis CAN syndrome“.

Key words: violence; punishment; behavioural theory; operant conditioning.

Gerda Didžklapytė

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Kaunas, Lithuania

The Experiences of Fatherhood in the Development of a Child with Complex Disabilities

Abstract

The aim of presentation is to present the experiences of fatherhood in the development of a child with complex disabilities. A qualitative research was chosen to analyse the experiences of fatherhood. The selected choice of gathering the data – interview. 7 fathers who have disabled children temporary took part in the study. Study revealed that the concept of hegemonic masculinity is changing, despite the fact that the definition of a traditional man still has implications for men and men as parents. Also, many fatherhood

forms predominate in society, which means that there is no single parenting pattern that suits most parents. As far as parents with a disabled child are concerned, the emergence of a child with a disability in a family changes into a normal life pattern and raises complex requirements. Also, often the birth of a disabled child in a family is equated with a crisis. Analyzing the data, it was observed that only material support was not sufficient for the participants in the research, they directly expressed the need for psychological help and social services, so it could be argued that there is also a need for complex services.

Key words: qualitative research; fatherhood; the experiences; child; complex disabilities.

Ramune Bagdonaite-Stelmokiene

Kolping University of Applied Sciences / Vytautas Magnus University

Kaunas, Lithuania

„I Became a Different Person”: Personal Change of Foster Parents through the Experience of Fostering

Abstract

The aim of presentation is to describe the personal change of foster parents by revealing their subjective experiences of fostering. 16 narrative interviews with foster parents (6 men and 10 women) raising their biological children and fostering non-relative children for a period longer than one year were conducted. The findings revealed that the personal change of foster parents and their growth in parenthood takes place in the process of learning from everyday experiences. Through the experience of fostering foster parents get to know themselves better, learn to reduce their egoism and enjoy life more. The research participants refer to this experience as that which enabled them “to discover a new self,” i.e. foster parents rethink his or her attitudes, worldviews, models of behaviour; they learn to accept situations as they are. However, the acceptance of a non-relative child into a foster family pose a number of challenges and cause confusion, but it is the experience of giving, joy and community too. This experience changes the life of the whole foster family, but it also nurtures them and enhances their consciousness for the new parenthood and motherhood.

Key words: fostering; foster parents; personal change.

Eva Mydlíková, Peter Patyi, Jaroslav Slaný, Denisa Vargová, Ľubica Nicolussi

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Rapid Tests for Early Diagnosis of CAN syndrome

Abstract

The aim of the contribution is to introduce the construction of rapid testing of the identification of individual forms of sy CAN, which is intended for the workers of the first contact with the child (social workers, teachers, educational counselors, police, medical staff, etc.). The purpose of the rapid test developed is to quickly and easily identify the symptoms of each form of syCAN and the risk factors that development of the syndrome support the and so prevention is important. The theoretical basis for constructing the rapid test was the theoretical constructs of the investigation of conflicts and violence in the social sciences, more specifically from the five categories of factors conditional on violence against the child. Respecting two basic areas of syndrome investigation (symptoms and risk factors), we used analytical-deductive methods and constructed 4 basic forms of the syCAN questionnaire, respecting the psychosocial developmental stages of the child. The questionnaire, after several-level testing, was distributed to social and legal protection workplaces of labor offices, social affairs and family and non-governmental organizations. Currently the results are processed by the SPSS statistical program and we have the results of the factor analysis available. Upon completion of data collection, standardization of tests for symptoms and risk factors shall be developed with respect to the form of the syndrome and the age of the child. With the help of established and standardized rapid tests for the Slovak population, it will be possible to support first contact workers in deciding whether and how quickly a child can distribute to in-depth diagnostics.

The article was elaborated within the project APVV 16-0205 „Identification of mechanisms for early diagnosis CAN syndrome“.

Key words: test; research; violence; children; symptoms; manifestations.

Dominika Lisá

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Physical Punishment of Children

Abstract

Not so long ago, when the issue of physical punishment of children was not discussed at all. Progress occurred in the second half of the 20th century when children began to be perceived as authentic and legally protected beings. Over the past two decades, we have seen an international shift in perspectives concerning the physical punishment of children.

In 1990, research showing an association between physical punishment and negative developmental outcomes was starting to accumulate, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child had just been adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations. The aim of our research was to find out how citizens of the Slovak Republic perceive physical punishments of children and how they apply them in the educational process. We have been found out whether opinions on physical punishments are varied according to gender, education and religion of respondents. The research has been conducted using a quantitative research strategy. There a questionnaire has been used in order to collect the data. The survey sample consisted 168 respondents. The data obtained was processed and analyzed using the SPSS program. Significant differences were confirmed from the point of view of education – respondents with lower education preferred physical punishment more than respondents with higher education. It is important for parents, to realize that the use of educational methods such as explanation, persuasion, demand, or personal example is the base for achieving educational goals.

The contribution was processed in the framework of the APVV project: Identification of mechanisms for early diagnosis CAN syndrome (APVV -16-0205).

Key words: physical punishment; education; parenting style.

Andrea Bánovčinová, Dominika Lisá

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Material and Structural Conditions of Child - Protection

Abstract

Protecting the child is a social priority. State authorities, especially Offices of labour, social affairs and family, plays an important role in this field. Research shows that working conditions are a significant determinant of social work. It is therefore necessary to pay attention to the conditions under which social workers carry out their work. However, the area of work conditions is wide and their objective is a challenge. In our research we focused on identifying material-structural conditions as one of the areas of conditions of work performance. The aim of the paper is to describe the procedure of creating a measuring tool aimed at finding out the conditions of performance of the work of a social-legal protection worker. This paper was prepared as a part of the project Identification of mechanisms of early diagnosis of CAN syndrome.

The article was elaborated within the project APVV 16-0205 „Identification of mechanisms for early diagnosis CAN syndrome“.

Key words: material conditions; structural conditions; child protection; analysis.

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