

A B S T R A C T S

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ECONOMICAL AND SOCIAL POSITION OF UNEMPLOYED DISABLED PEOPLE IN SLOVENIA CHARACTERISTICS OF INDIVIDUAL GROUPS OF THE DISABLED REGARDING THE LEGAL PROVISION ON DISABILITY

Lawyer and sociologist Cveto Uršič, M. A., is an assistant lecturer of labour legislation and social safety at the University of Ljubljana School of Social Work, Programme Director at the Republic of Slovenia Institute of Rehabilitation, a member of the expert council of the Social Chamber of Slovenia, and the national co-ordinator for Rehabilitation International, a worldwide NGO. Sociologist Janez Drobnič is a counsellor to the Minister of Labour, Family and Social Affairs.

The authors analyse the position of individual groups of the disabled – due to work, war, categorisation (juveniles), and those who got the status on the basis of the Law of Training and Employment of the Disabled Persons – on the labour market. Their findings are based on the research Economical and Social Position of Unemployed Disabled People in Slovenia they carried out (with collaborators) in 1995. Individual groups of the disabled differ according to their degree of education, their age and their interest in employment. As a whole, this group of employment seekers have worse personal characteristics (lower education, higher age, shorter and more negative working experience, more health problems) than the unemployed who are not disabled. That reason, along with inadequate systemic solutions, contributes to their increasing marginalisation.

Metod Tekavčič

EFFECTS OF THE CLUB OF EMPLOYMENT SEEKERS

Metod Tekavčič is a social worker; at the time of writing this paper, he was a last year student of social work.

The comparison of a group of persons categorised as long-term unemployed who are members of an employment seeking club ($n = 19$) with a comparable group of nonmembers ($n = 20$) – equalized in gender, age, education, marital status, employment age, duration of unemployment, cause of unemployment and self-rating of possibilities for employment – conducted after three weeks of the former group's participation in the club shows that the groups differ significantly (chi-square test) in self-ratings of self-esteem and of their performance in the employment interview, the members being higher on both items. In the member-group, there are fewer persons who had been seeking employment through formal and informal channels before they enrolled into the club. There are no significant differences between groups in their statements of psychological, social and economic stresses of unemployment and in manifestations of readiness for education and training.

Blaž Mesec

EFFECTS OF THE CLUB OF EMPLOYMENT SEEKERS COMMENTARY

Dr. Blaž Mesec is associate professor of methodology and Dean of University of Ljubljana School of Social Work.

In the commentary to the above report, the problems of interpretation related to the *ex post facto* design are discussed, and an interpretation is offered, partially supported by the findings of the research that the persons who voluntarily enrolled in the employment seeking club were more dependent, more ready to admit helplessness and accept help ("weak job seekers"); on the other side, the nonmembers are less dependent, less ready to admit helplessness and ask for help

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("strong job seekers"). It seems that those who admit their own helplessness and seek help have higher possibilities to get employment.

Irena Bizjak

JOINT PARENTHOOD AFTER DIVORCE OR BREAK-UP OF AN EXTRAMARITAL HOUSEHOLD BETTER OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOCIAL WORK WITH FAMILY

Social worker Irena Bizjak is counsellor for partnerships and family relations at Centre of Social Work Piran.

The paper presents the possibility of arranging for joint parenthood of children after divorce or break-up of an extramarital household through practice and law. Many courts of law do not take into consideration parents' agreements on joint care of their child, referring to the Law of Matrimony and Family Relations that does not mention that possibility. More and more countries have altered their legal practice and the law itself, so that when circumstances allow, the child is assigned to both parents' care and upbringing. To entrust the child to one parent only has become rather an exception in cases when joint care would not be to the child's benefit. The author's intent is to contribute to better social work with the family in which none of the parents renounces his or her care of the child. This approach in social work stimulates the quality of work, does not exclude anybody and seeks opportunities for both parents to care for their child.

Franc Udovič

MEDIATION AS COMPARED WITH RELATED APPROACHES

Pedagogue and social worker Franc Udovič is senior counsellor in the field of divorce and separation and head of Mediation project at the Social Work Centre in Maribor.

The rapid growth of the practice of mediation in the world indicates that this approach to resolving interpersonal conflicts is very effective and obviously fills the gap that has always been felt by social work practitioners. The process of mediation with its temporal-logical graded structure and clear orientation towards an honest, self-responsible and co-operative conflict solution is an opportunity for the partners in conflict to keep dignity and self-respect while asserting their interests. The interdisciplinarity of the mediation technique (social sciences, psychology, law and economy) allows a comprehensive and dynamic treatment of conflict. In this way, the partners reach agreements that are suitable to the circumstances and satisfy all the participants, thus obtaining permanent value. Such conflict management seems particularly important in the field of family relations, where a continuation of a relationship between partners is expected, as what is often at issue is the delicate question of protecting the rights and welfare of their children. These can be best protected if the parents keep co-operating and jointly care for the children (mutual parenthood). In order to do so, numerous and precise agreements are needed between the parents, as well as their readiness to adjust them to changed circumstances. All of this can be achieved in the process of mediation.

Stanija Ivajnsič

SOME OPEN QUESTIONS AND DILEMMAS OF SOCIAL WORK IN A HOME OF THE AGED

Social worker Stanija Ivajnsič works in Home of the Retired D. Vogrinc, the Tabor unit, Maribor.

In the time when our society irreversibly ages, institutional care has become a necessity or a need dictated by the contemporary way of life. Institutional care is the most widely spread form of organised care of the aged in Slovenia. Despite great efforts to enrich the life in homes of the aged with cultural and social actions, a part of psychological and emotional needs of an aged person can only be satisfied by his or her friends and relatives. The paper lists the open questions met by social workers in relation to the aged persons and their relatives, to their teams, to the institutions employing them, and to other institutions and individuals with whom they co-operate. The red thread is in these questions: how to preserve personal integrity of the aged person; how to alleviate the effects of institutionalisation; and how to successfully carry out the role of

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institution and the role of counsellor. Open questions and dilemmas met at work can be solved in supervision. Supervision enables professional growth of a counsellor, keeps up his or her self-confidence and autonomy in decisions, which is crucial for his or her successful work and content at work.

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Vida Kramžar Klemenčič

INDIVIDUAL FAITH AS RELATED TO THE CONCEPT OF PSYCHOSOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Sociologist Vida Kramžar, M. A., teaches social science courses at Secondary School Zagorje.

The field of individual faith, established by W. James at the beginning of the century, is wide and ramified. Several theoretical clusters stem from it, the research of personal faith as related to personality development for one. The pioneer of such research was G. Allport. In the author's view, one of his most interesting successors was E. Erikson who, on the basis of general anthropological assumptions, built an interesting and well known theory of personality development and linked it to the phenomenon of ritualisation. Ritualisation is not synonymous with the religious but its condition. In the process of individual ritualisation all elements of religious ritual or experience can appear, such as numinosity, dramaticity, adherence etc. Such research gives grounds to the investigations of the diversity and the universality of religious conduct.

Napovedi kongresov, simpozijev, konferenc...

IUCSD (Inter-University Consortium for International Social Development) potrjuje svoj tretji simpozij v Capetownu, Južna Afrika, od 4. do 9. julija 1999. Organizirajo ga študenti in socialno delo Capetownske univerze. Tema simpozija je »Strukturalna teorija in nova koncepta«. Vsiže in strategije za globalno transformacijo. Dopis z nekaj več informacijami si lahko ogledate v razpisni Visker'ski šoli za socialno delo. Lahko pa pisno organizatorjem namočite: Dr. Gary R. Lowe, East Carolina University, School of Social Work & Criminal Justice Studies, 134 Bagshaw Building, Greenville, North Carolina 27838, USA, email: loweg@mail.ecu.edu, ali pa: Dr. Lionel Louw, School of Social Work, University of Cape Town, Private Bag, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa, email: louw@social.uct.ac.za

Evropski IUCSD konferenca, ki jo organizirajo vsaka drugo leto, bo od 23. do 26. septembra 1999 v Krakovu, Poljska, na temo »Civilna družina in družbe na razvoju«. Konferenca bo v angleščini. Dopis z nekaj več informacijami si lahko ogledate v razpisni Visker'ski šoli za socialno delo. Lahko pa pisno organizatorjem namočite: Prof. Dr. Piotr Szymanski, Filozofski Fil. Sociološki odd. Komisjonscher Str. 6, 33-615 Białystok, Gornary, email: szymanski@poczta.onet.pl, ali pa: Dr. Vanda Stropnik, Inštitut za etnologijo in kulturno raziskave, Karlovača ploščad 17, 1000 Ljubljana, email: stropnik@kriev.si