

A B S T R A C T S

Andreja Kavav Vidmar
QUALITY OF WORKING LIFE

Dr. Andreja Kavav Vidmar is associate professor of labour law at University of Ljubljana School of Social Work.

Social work may be described also as help to the people for quality life. The quality of working life has an impact on the whole life of the employees as well as on the success of their company, it is an integral part of the integral quality of a company. It is to a great extent determined by legal norms. With a stress upon legal regulations, the paper deals with individual issues of working life, from the traditional ones such as safety at work and working time, to the recent ones such as the right of the workers to privacy and the reconciliation of working and private life. An initiative is offered to study the quality of working life in the field of social work.

Tanja Lamovec
USERS' MOVEMENT AS A RECONSTRUCTION OF COMMUNITY

Dr. Tanja Lamovec is professor at University of Ljubljana Faculty of Art, Department of Psychology, and Chair of Paradox, an association of mental health users.

As a starting point some reflections on the contemporary situation of users of psychiatry in various countries, including Slovenia, are outlined. There is a wide agreement that users are not properly integrated into their respective societies despite the partial success of deinstitutionalisation. A new explanation of this fact is tentatively offered. The concept of community is reviewed in some detail and the development of users-led communities is argued for. The communities established by professionals usually lack proper value orientation and growth potential and thus remain artificial pseudocommunities. Probably the most vital communities nowadays are the religious ones. Similarities among religious and users' communities value orientation, as well as with successful communities in general, are outlined. Based on the experience of Jean Vanier, some conditions of viable communities as well as the crucial problems to be addressed are presented. Signs of growth and decay of a community are pointed out.

Jana Kambič
INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS OF LIFE IN HOMES FOR THE AGED

Jana Kambič is a practising social worker.

The first part of the paper presents short, yet pregnant, passages from the works on institutional care for the aged, replete with the author's own deliberations. The second part offers the findings of a research the author has conducted in such an institution. Among these, four types of residents stand out: the passive, constructive, resigned and rebellious types. To acknowledge them and take them into account may contribute to the working off of some negative elements of institutionalisation.