

UVODNIK

Pred vami je trojna številka revije *Socialno delo* z naslovom »Študij hendikepa v državah post-socializma in jugovzhodni Aziji« gostujočih urednic dr. Darje Zaviršek in dr. Jelke Zorn. Številka prinaša znanstvene članke v slovenskem in angleškem jeziku, ki uporabljajo kritično perspektivo in prinašajo refleksijo o družbeni konstrukciji normalnosti ter opozarjajo na relikte zgodovinskega zapiranja ljudi z različnimi telesnimi, senzornimi in intelektualnimi posebnostmi, ki se danes kažejo kot različne oblike diskriminacij. Te diskriminacije ljudi hendikepirajo.

Socialna okolja, iz katerih izhajajo avtorice in avtorji, imajo tri pomembne skupne značilnosti. Prva je, da gre za države, v katerih studij hendikepa sploh ne obstaja ali pa je šele v zametkih. Druga značilnost, povezana z razmerami postsocializma in slabega ekonomskega položaja večine ljudi v jugovzhodni Aziji, je slab ekonomski, socialni in politični položaj ljudi z ovirami. To povečuje njihov hendikep. Tretja značilnost je od kulture odvisen odnos do različnosti, s katerim imajo težave tako postsocialistične države kot bolj tradicionalne države globalnega juga. V teh družbah različne prirojene in pridobljene ovire niso del človeške barvitosti, temveč breme, problem in vzrok sramu, ki naj ga medicinski, rehabilitacijski, socialnodelovni in pedagoški postopki čim bolj skrijejo, popravijo in odstranijo. Ljudi z ovirami se praviloma obravnava posebej, kot »specifično skupino ljudi«, kot da bi ovira spremenila njihovo človeškost:

Novinarka nam je obljubila, da bo naredila oddajo o nasilju, a bo o tematiki žensk z ovirami poročala posebej! (Pričevanje hendikepirane uporabnice socialnovarstvenih storitev, 2013.)

Tematska številka se, nasprotno, zavzema za etiko hendikepa, ki telesne, intelektualne in čustvene ovire razume kot del človeške različnosti in izkušnji hendikepa priznava mesto, iz katerega izhaja posebno razumevanje sveta.

Šest prispevkov petih avtorjev in avtoric (Ule, Humljan Urh, Sobočan, Krstulović, Zaviršek) je rezultat raziskovalnega dela, ki je bilo opravljeno v okviru temeljne raziskave, ki jo je financirala ARRS med leti 2011 in 2014 in je imela naslov »Etika hendikepa« (šifra: J5-4073-0591-14). Drugi prispevki so bili predstavljeni na mednarodnem simpoziju »Proti socialnemu trpljenju: socialno delo, ki je na strani ljudi z ovirami v času krize«, ki so ga organizirali sodelavci Katedre za preučevanje socialne pravičnosti in vključevanja Fakultete za socialno delo (Zaviršek, Sobočan, Krstulović, Zorn). Na simpoziju so raziskovalke in raziskovalci iz 15 držav (Madžarska, Hrvaška, Bosna in Hercegovina, Avstrija, Šrilanka, Južnoafriška republika, Kitajska, Gruzija, Rusija, Grčija, Združeno kraljestvo, Indija, Nemčija, Kosovo, Slovenija) predstavili analize položaja oviranih iz perspektive človekovih pravic v primerjalni perspektivi. Mednarodni simpozij (potekal je junija 2013) sta finančno podprli Mednarodna zveza šol za socialno delo (IASSW) in Evropska zveza šol za socialno delo (EASSW). Zbornik povzetkov mednarodnega simpozija in zvočni zapisi vseh prispevkov so izšli v spletnem zvočnem zborniku *Against social suffering: social*

work in alliance with people with disabilities in the times of crisis: compendium of the International Regional Symposium of the IASSW, EASSW and EEsrASSW, Ljubljana, 17th-18th June 2013 (https://www.dropbox.com/s/57z2nrhn3km5mk0/Against_Social_Suffering-EBOOK.pdf).

Vsem trem financerjem se najlepše zahvaljujemo za finančno podporo.

Darja Zaviršek, Jelka Zorn

EDITORIAL

Before you is a triple issue of the journal *Socialno delo* entitled 'Disability studies in post-socialist countries and South-East Asia'; the issue's guest editors are Darja Zaviršek and Jelka Zorn. The articles are in two languages, Slovene and English, and adopt a critical perspective in reflecting on social constructions of normality. They point to the confinement of people with physical, sensory or intellectual disabilities in social care institutions as a source of discrimination. These and other discriminatory practices disable people. The social environments of all the authors featured in this issue share three common characteristics. Firstly, the authors all come from states where disability studies are non-existent or are just beginning to take shape. Secondly, they share an awareness of the poverty and social and political powerlessness currently being experienced by the majority of the population, and especially by many people with disabilities, in post-socialist countries and South-East Asia, and of how this results in the exacerbation of disability. The third commonality is a culturally conditioned attitude towards diversity: in these societies, various impairments (acquired during life or inborn) are not viewed as part of the vast, colorful spectrum of human conditions, but are seen as a burden, an irresolvable problem and cause for shame. Impairments are therefore to be concealed, repaired or diminished through medical, rehabilitational, pedagogical and social work procedures and approaches. People with disabilities are usually treated separately, as a specific group, as if the impairment changes their humanity:

'The journalist promised to produce a TV show on violence, but she said she will make a special piece on women with disabilities' (testimony from a woman with disabilities, 2013).

In opposition to these processes, this issue of *Socialno delo* strives for an ethics of disability, in the sense of a consideration of physical, sensory and intellectual impairments as part of human diversity and an acknowledgement of the experience of disability as a point of departure for obtaining special insight into the world.

Six papers from five authors (Ule, Humljan Urh, Sobočan, Krstulović, Zaviršek) are the result of research done in the framework of 'basic research' entitled *The Ethics of Disability*. This research was funded by the Public Research Agency of the Republic of Slovenia and was conducted between 2011 and 2014 (grant number J5-4073-0591-14). The other papers in this issue were presented at the international conference *Against social suffering: Social work in alliance with people with disabilities in times of crisis*, which was organized by colleagues from the Department for Social Justice and Social Inclusion Studies of the Faculty of Social Work (Zaviršek, Sobočan, Krstulović, Zorn). Researchers from 15 countries (Slovenia, Hungary, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Austria, Sri Lanka, South Africa, China (Hong Kong), Georgia, Russia, Greece, United Kingdom, India, Kosovo, Germany) presented findings from cutting edge research in disability studies and national and comparative analyses of the situation of people with disabilities. The conference was funded by the European Association of Schools of Social Work (EASSW) and the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW).

The conference resulted in the publication of an audio book that brings together all lectures, abstracts and photographic material from the conference: *Against social suffering: Social work in alliance with people with disabilities in times of crisis: A compendium of the International Regional Symposium of the IASSW, EASSW and EEsrASSW, 17th - 18th June 2013*. Ljubljana: Faculty of Social Work, edited by Zaviršek, Sobočan and Krstulović, available at https://www.dropbox.com/s/57z2nrhn3km5mk0/Against_Social_Suffering-EBOOK.pdf.

We would like to thank all three subsidisers.

Darja Zaviršek, Jelka Zorn