



The Social Work Practitioner-Researcher

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Editorial (pages 145-147)

Leila Patel and Tessa Hochfeldt

Analysing the paradigms: Developmental social welfare and children's right to social services in South Africa (pages 148-165)

Mira Dutschke

This article defines children's constitutional right to social services. Guided by South Africa's jurisprudence and international law obligations the interpretation of this right is linked to the overall welfare system. Children's right to social services is therefore tied to the developmental social welfare discourse established by various academics and practitioners in the field. In the applied approach the right to social services is related to children's right to live in a family environment and their right to be protected against abuse and neglect. The White Paper for Social Welfare, the Policy for Financial Support for Service Providers, the Service Delivery Model and the Children's Act 38/2005 are analysed to the extent to which they enable the shift to the rights-based, developmental social welfare approach. While the policies are unlikely to affect the constitutionally mandated change, the Children's Act, if fully implemented, has the potential to offer a new deal for children and their families.

Beyond the practice divide in service delivery for abused women and children (pages 166-182)

Sheri Hanson and Leila Patel

Both woman and child abuse are pervasive social phenomena locally and internationally. However women's advocacy groups and child welfare agencies focus on the needs of either women or children in isolation of one another leading to the bifurcation of the needs and problems of women and children in the same family. Consequently, the co-occurrence of woman and child abuse in the same family system is often undetected placing both parties at severe personal risk. This was one of the key findings of an exploratory, qualitative study to assess the link between the co-occurrence of woman and child abuse in the same family system with far reaching implications for practice. There is need for an over-arching approach that integrates the two phenomena to guide assessment and intervention. A gender sensitive generalist practice framework is proposed to transcend the divide between woman and child abuse in the same family systems.

Equipment-based-entrepreneurship: Fishing in Asia for an African poverty alleviation model (pages 183-201)

John Rautenbach

This paper proposes to challenge the notion that knowledge alone can contribute to poverty alleviation. In light of the above quote, teaching the poor man to fish will only change his life, if he is given a fishing rod or a net. Equipment-Based-Entrepreneurship, as seen in the streets and markets of China and Asia, may be the model which South Africa and the Eastern Cape, in particular, needs to adopt to ensure the sustainable development of the poor in a dignified manner. I believe a single piece of equipment can change a family's destiny. Thus I seek to explore the adaptability of the Asian Equipment-Based-Entrepreneurship model to the South African poverty alleviation context.

HIV/AIDS as biographical disruption: A qualitative study of female clinic attendees (pages 202-218)

Gretchen du Plessis and Frans Bezuidenhout

It is beyond dispute that HIV/AIDS represents a crisis in personal coping and social support in South Africa. This article documents and analyses the processes of adaptation that women undergo

following an HIV-positive diagnosis. It draws on in-depth, qualitative work with a group of HIV-positive women accessing public health care facilities in Gauteng. It is demonstrated how these women cope with the disruption caused by the illness in their lives and how social support systems appear to facilitate, mediate or worsen the processes of biographical disruption and reconstruction that the women lived through. Research participants reported having at least one person, usually a family member, on whom they depended for support. For some women, however, support was poor prior to their diagnosis as HIV-positive and is unlikely to improve further along these women's illness trajectories. Recommendations are made for care strategies for women living with HIV via support groups.

Paper prayers: An arts-based methodological approach for HIV/AIDS intervention and action (pages 219-236)

Kim Berman and Lara Allen

The arts offer social development practitioners innovative methodological approaches to the challenges of achieving substantive attitudinal and behaviour change amongst individuals and communities. For instance, through 200 workshops run over ten years, the Paper Prayers programme has achieved significant results in terms of improving HIV/AIDS awareness, increasing Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT), inspiring participants to become HIV/AIDS educators, activists and caregivers in their communities, and providing them with the skills and confidence to generate income and improve their livelihoods. Qualitative evidence in the form of the artworks made during the workshops, their accompanying narratives, and testimonies by participants suggests that Paper Prayers provides a practical methodological tool for action. It also contributes to the ideals proposed by such theorists as Amartya Sen and Arjun Appadurai with regard to the agency to imagine and enact an alternative future and achieve the freedom promised by effective development.

Poësieterapie – 'n terreinverkenning en toepassingsmoontlikhede daarvan in die Suid-Afrikaanse konteks (pages 237-258)

Leti Kleyn and Henning Pieterse

This article provides an overview of the field of poetry therapy by focussing on its origin in ancient civilizations, its earlier uses – which emphasise the therapeutic value of poetry – and the establishment of the worldwide National Association for Poetry Therapy (NAPT). Definitions of the term poetry therapy are provided, and the difference between bibliotherapy and poetry therapy is explained with reference to the bibliotherapy model of Hynes and Hynes-Berry (1986). The functions and uses of poetry therapy are also indicated, with references for further research. The guidelines used by therapists in choosing usable texts, which is a determining factor in the success of poetry therapy, are set out. Finally, a list is provided of a few recent projects, institutions and individuals in South Africa who contribute to community development by using writing as therapy.

Notes from Practice (pages 259-267)

Johannesburg Housing Company

Lisa Selipsky

Book Review (pages 268-271)

Gray M., Coates, J. and Yellow Bird M. (2008). *Indigenous Social Work around the World*. England: Ashgate Publishing Limited.

Terry Sacco

