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Title of Session: Social Transformation and Helping Professions

Name of Session Convener(s): Jacquelin Delaru

University/Organization incl. City: Social Work and Social Technologies, Yerevan State University

Chair: Artak Khachatryan

University/Organization incl. City: Yerevan State University

I) Title of Selected Paper: Social Work and the Armanian Society

Name/s of Author/s: Artak Khachatryan

University/Organization incl. City: Yerevan State University

Abstract:

II) Title of Selected Paper: Trials and difficulties in defining the term "professional ethics" oriented to the department of psychiatry

Name/s of Author/s: Dipl.-Psych. Nina Paulsen

University/Organization incl. City: Helmut-Schmidt-University Hamburg

Abstract: One would expect physicians to follow specific professional ethics. Swearing a hippocratic oath does imply an internalized understanding of the term professional ethics in daily routine of working. Particularly in the department of psychiatry, physicians are confronted with questions and decisions relating to the term of professional ethics. When does a patient meet criteria to be sectioned into a mental hospital? Knowledge about the subject in the department of psychiatry is very important to ensure a safe, honest and equitable physician-patient-relationship.
This article focuses on problems in definition of the term "professional ethics" related to physicians working in mental hospitals. How do physicians define their understanding of the term "professional ethics" and how do they reflect on this specific subject in everyday working life? To answer this question we will refer to qualitative interviews which were carried out with physicians / psychiatrists of different hierarchical structures and different background knowledge. This study demonstrates trials and problems in defining the term "professional ethics". Some physicians seem to deal with the subject and do relate their theoretic knowledge with their own practical experience. Whereas

others do not even give a sensible thought to the important significance of this subject. Some even struggle to find any kind of words for a definition. Overall it is striking and threatening at the same time how the background knowledge to such an important subject differs in a highly esteemed professional group having a great amount of power and responsibility to their selves and to others.

III) Title of Selected Paper: The basic problems of child protection in changing society

Name/s of Author/s: Mira Antonyan

University/Organization incl. City: Yerevan State University

Abstract: The changing society has become less effective in meeting the needs of children and families. We can see evidence of this in increasing concerns about violence, abuse, abandonment and increasing rates of poor outcomes. Children and families are living in environments where existing models of service delivery are not succeeding in modifying these trends.   We need wide-spread acceptance of new ways to work in communities with families and children, and that these new approaches need to permeate all levels of our social system in order to be effective. Family support programs operate in this new manner and therefore may have the potential to impact on the way our society meets the needs of children and families in the future.
We know that the world is changing and the current services are not providing adequate in meeting changing needs. Family support, as a new initiative, is aimed at addressing changing needs in a new manner. Family support programs have the potential to help create a new society but cannot, and will not change the world by tomorrow. We can realistically expect to ameliorate some of the risks faced by young children and their families by offering opportunities to increase protection from risk. Protective factors can be addressed at all levels of the system, starting from the individual and moving through to the macro-system level. Improving opportunities for young children and families to develop to their full potential is not just the responsibility of all of us who live in communities. Our efforts to make positive changes for all will be enhanced when supported by appropriate government policies, but are not prevented in their absence.

IV) Title of Selected Paper: Professional Ethics of Health Care Professions in

Transformed Organisations

Name/s of Author/s: Kerstin Wüstner

University/Organization incl. City: Helmut-Schmidt-University Hamburg

Abstract: In the past, most hospitals were part of the public sector in Germany. Yet, over the last years a period of "economisation" (e.g. privatisation and introduction of management tools) has interpenetrated the health care system and changed hospitals in many ways. Nowadays economic principles are supposed to guide the behaviour of health care professions. At the same time, it can be assumed that professional ethics is still important for professions like nurses or physicians. This paper focuses on how these two value systems – economics and professional ethics – interact. Are professionals able to realize both?
In order to analyse this question, we will refer to qualitative interviews which were carried out with physicians, nurses and physiotherapists. These case studies demonstrate how difficult it has become for professionals to act on ethics, while economic principles tend to guide everyday routine. Some health care workers seem to have internalised economic principles while professional ethics has been eclipsed. Others try to orientate

themselves primarily to professional ethics and struggle to find a way to act upon the economic orientation just to a minimum.

All in all, the simultaneous orientation on professional ethics and economisation are perceived to be quite conflict-laden which can in turn affect the individual well-being of professions and patients. It can also bring about social effects. This shows how this form of transformation within a helping setting makes it more difficult to help those who are in need.

V) Title of Selected Paper: Sociological study of the Family transformation regarding domestic violence against women

Name/s of Author/s: Mitra Khagani

University/Organization incl. City: Iran

Abstract: From traditional societies to nowadays societies, for finding the origins of violence against women, we face some elements that provided backgrounds literature for men's use of violence against women. Multiple elements provide the traditional literature of men's violence against women, consist of: belief in men's rational superiority over women, women's unfaithfulness, women begin representatives of devil and shrewdness, and belief in that women are a part men's property. Domestic violence takes place in a private domain, by intimacy, blood/legal relationships, or they live in a patriarchal environment. Now, regarding these conditions, men violence against women in some different forms such as mental, physical, economic, and sexual, Applying roots, nor has religious roots. It has got traditional roots.

In Iran, we observe a growing number of educated girls and women. Besides, the changes in family structure have resulted in the modification of family's viewpoint in supporting their daughters emotionally and financially and their approach toward the beliefs and rituals. Iranian girls and women with the help of their cultural, social, economic and familial capitals, have changed their approaches toward the issue; trying to add to the social structure of families and decrease or abolish familial violence.

VI) Title of Selected Paper: Social and political participation of elderly citizens in Armenia: Contemporary situation and the ways of development

Name/s of Author/s: Anna Voskanyan

University/Organization incl. City: Yerevan State University

Abstract: This thesis is discussing the role of elderly citizens in the political life of the county and their civil activity in the frame of the last decade's social-political transformations.

The article describes traditional forms of elderly citizens' public-political participation in the historical perspective, particularly the periods up to and post-soviet times. Mainly, the role and the participation of the elderly citizens in the activities of the communities are discussed.

Besides, in this thesis is mentioned the contemporary situation above this sphere, which is analyzed on the basis of the quantitative and qualitative researches conducted by author in 2006-2008. The analysis includes tree main elements, by which the public-political activity of the elderly citizens is constructed: personal political and community leadership of the elderly citizens, the electoral value of the elderly, and their participation in political parties, communities, NGO's activities and self-advocative movements.

The paper is also discussing different factors that have an influence on the involvement of the elderly citizens in the process of decision making, mainly the changes in economy, in the system of values and in ideology. The negative impact of the age stereotypes and age discrimination, that brings to reduction of self-esteem, makes the elderly citizens passive and excludes them from the different forms of social-political activities, are also discussed.

In the context of this issue the author discussed the Armenian State Strategy of Improving the Conditions of the Elderly Citizens, that was created on the basis of the 'Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing', accepted by the Assembly of UN in 2002.

For the conclusion the author presents the possibilities of the usage of social work technologies for the elderly citizens' activation and for their full involvement in the mentioned sphere. She also discusses the already created programs and additional opportunities, mainly the organization and development of educational groups, empowerment and self-help groups.

VII) Title of Selected Paper: The Peculiarities of psychological work in the Society of Transformation Society

Name/s of Author/s: Anahit Sahakyan

University/Organization incl. City: Yerevan State University

Abstract: Each transformative society forms numerous social issues. The sharpness of those issues is determined by the fact that they are brad-new ones. New social-economical relations are stressful and critical for stressful situations if we consider the fact that each new phase of person's life activity needs its own level of adaptation. Thus we speak of each age periods adaptation. And this form of adaptation is more stressful. However, it also creates physiological problems. If radical changes occur in social world, it means that not only person himself/herself but whole society reaches a state of stress. That is why in those historical periods that Chinese call 'the epoch of changes', the physiological variations acquire mass feature. It means that in these periods the development of physiological work must be intensive. Person meets not only difficult social conditions but also nonadaptive circumstances of vital activity. The hardness of new social situation is determined the fact that it involves all life spheres, brings disruption to existing adaptive values: family relations, friend's relations and emotional affection. Peron's old structural world-perceptions are destroying but the new ones have not been formed yet. That is why we mention the transforming society 'socially pubertal'. In this hard period it is demanded from physiologist reviewing his/her professional attitudes. The physiologist must issue from the whole picture of already reformed society; he/she must consider shifts through the scale of individual's values. It is evident that physiological problems are isolated. As a rule, stress has a tendency to declare itself in somatic way. Thus, the number of psycho-somatic patients increases in crisis social situations. Particularly, peculiar growth is observed clinic of ulcerous diseases. Especially, it reflects the majority's psychic problems. The individual is not able to digest the existing situation and this digestion leads to gastrointestinal diseases. In the period of new social-psychological relations formations psychologist must consider numerous components that acquires additional corrections in his/her professional activity.

VIII) Title of Selected Paper: The development of person and social- pedagogical activity in conditions of social transformation

Name/s of Author/s: Anna Aleksanyan

University/Organization incl. City: postgraduate student, Armenian State Pedagogical University after Kh. Abovyan

Abstract: One of the reasons of contemporary social transformation is the spontaneous nature and uncontrollability of person's formation and development. The contemporary factors and the teaching powers which spontaneously impact children every day also became uncontrollable. Due to this reason the demands for person's formation and development are changing in modern social transformations.
 In the 21-st century it is rather crucial the formation and the development of that person who is quick-orienting in changing conditions, active in all relations, has a creative thinking, takes initiatives, seeks to self-recognition and self-improvement, is self-realizing, respects the rights of the others, is civic and developed in all aspects; the person who can rule his/her own potential as well as the external influences by setting forth the issues of self-development. Thus, the cultivation and the application of the means and technologies that will promote the develpment of such a person are becoming crucial and challenging.
The researches of A. Adler, V. Shterni, H. Sallivan, K. Horni, A. Makarenko, L. Vigotski, D. Elkonin, A. Maslu, K. Rogers, E. Fromm and others approve that the capability of permanent development is peculiar to a person. However, through interpersonal communications this process can be revealed, developed as well as restricted and blocked.
From this point it is tremenduous the effective work of social pedagogues in those institutions where they work with children using directed methods. As the founder of the social pedagogy, German scientist P. Natorp mentions, the social pedagogical activity is directed to the consolidation of social-pedagogical capabilities in order to increase the moral level of society. Thus, the social pedagogues should discover and develop the possibilities of person's self-development as well as should impel child to be harmonsized in all social interactions. So, social pedagogue using his/her social-pedagogical activity has an opportunity to influence not only on person's development but also on process of social development.

IX) Title of Selected Paper: Sociocultural Approach as a Strategy of Conflict Resolution in Transformative Societies

Name/s of Author/s: Mkrtchyan, Naira

University/Organization incl. City: Yerevan State University

Abstract: transformations, occupied all spheres of post soviet countries, fundamentally changed institutional frames, behavioral patterns of ordinary citizens. Additionally some challenges were faced by practitioners, who following to the theoretical implications tried to orientate and to be effective in their professional activities. Depended on the tasks and aims suitable strategy could be socio-cultural approach. The main ideas are: the basic is a human action. The fulfillment of any action from personal point of view implies that the actor has some vision on how it could be realized (according to cultural values) and enough social skills (with psychological peculiarities) to turn it into being. In transformative societies different principles, inconsistent behavioral patterns are articulated. Socio-cultural transformations bring to the interpersonal and intrapersonal conflicts. The experience of post soviet countries approves that such kind of conflicts first of all were connected not only to the basic material needs of person, but they dealt

with the high-ranged need- self-actualization. This methodological strategy in case of conflict resolution suggests that the gaps, inconsistencies between different socio-cultural patterns can be overcome if the discourse between the involved persons changes from the one-sided, hierarchical mode to the multi-sided, horizontal, equal mode, where everyone is ready and willing to listen and accept the right of the other opinions' existence without stressing on the infallibility of his/her opinion. Interacting between these opinions and approaches will crystallize the general and acceptable one causing the adequate changes in so called "participants". So the work of practitioner should be directed both to the changing of guidelines of actor and environment, especially social environment, transforming situation to the unstrained character.