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PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK AND ITS VALUES

B.S.W.-121

B.A. Social Work - 1st Semester

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C.B.C.S. (Choice Based Credit System) Syllabus of

I.G.N.O.U.

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**Sample Preview
of the
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QUESTION PAPER

June – 2023

(Solved)

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B.S.W.-121

Time: 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 100

Note: Answer any five of the following questions. All questions carry equal mark.

Q. 1. Discuss the significance of social network for social work.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-1, Page No. 3, 'Social Network', Page No. 4, Q. No. 4.

Q. 2. Trace the evolution of social work in the United States of America.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-3, Page No. 18, 'Introduction', Page No. 19, 'History of Social Work in the United States of America'.

Q. 3. Explain the scope of social work.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-5, Page No. 37, 'Scope of Social Work', Page No. 41, Q. No. 3.

Q. 4. Discuss the relevance of voluntary action in social work.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-7, Page No. 58, 'Relevance of Voluntary Action and Social Work'.

Q. 5. Critically analyse the major service areas of social work profession.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-9, Page No. 73, 'Major Service Areas of Social Work'.

Q. 6. Explain the importance of social justice in social work profession.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-10, Page No. 79, 'Social Justice as a Value of Social Work Profession'.

Q. 7. Differentiate between blind patriotism and constructive patriotism.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-16, Page No. 129, Q. No. 1 and Q. No. 2.

Q. 8. Discuss the principles of value of hard work.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-18, Page No. 139, 'Hard Work as a Value of Social Work', Page No. 140, 'Principles of Value of Hard Work'.

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QUESTION PAPER

December – 2022

(Solved)

PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK AND ITS VALUES

B.S.W.-121

Time: 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 100

Note: Answer any five of the following questions. All questions carry equal mark.

Q. 1. Discuss the significance of social network for social work practice.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-1, Page No. 3, 'Social Network', Page No. 4, Q. No. 4.

Q. 2. Trace the history of social work in the United States of America.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-3, Page No. 18, 'Introduction', Page No. 19, 'History of Social Work in the United States of America'.

Q. 3. Explain the different ideologies of social work profession.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-5, Page No. 42, Q. No. 6, Page No. 39, 'Approaches of Professional Social Work'.

Q. 4. Describe the intervention of social work at family and community level.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-9, Page No. 73, 'Major Service Areas of Social Work'.

Q. 5. Explain the concept of voluntary action in relation to social work profession.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-7, Page No. 56, 'Introduction', Page No. 58, 'Relevance of Voluntary Action and Social Work'.

Q. 6. Describe the areas of intervention of voluntary action.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-7, Page No. 57, 'Areas of Interventions and Implications of Voluntary Action'.

Q. 7. Discuss the role of social worker in child and family services or medical and public health services. Give examples.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-9, Page No. 74, Q. No. 4, Page No. 75, Q. No. 1, Page No. 73, 'Medical and Public Health Services'.

Q. 8. Discuss human relationships as 'social capital' with the help of examples.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-11, Page No. 87, 'Human Relationships as Social Capital'.

Q. 9. Describe the concept of dignity and worth of a person in the social work profession.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-12, Page No. 96, 'Dignity and Worth of the Person as a Social Work Value'.

Q. 10. What is culture? How can cultural sensitivity be developed among social workers? Explain.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-17, Page No. 133, 'What is Culture?', 'Cultural Sensitivity', 'How to Achieve Cultural Sensitivity', Page No. 134, 'How to Develop Cultural Sensitivity', 'Personal Attributes of a Culturally Sensitive Social Worker'.

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Sample Preview of The Chapter

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PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK AND ITS VALUES

Introduction to Social Work Concepts-I

INTRODUCTION

Social work is a profession that is relatively new and not widely recognized in society, largely because it lacks immediate visible results that come from its practice. This is primarily due to the use of social relationships as the primary means of professional practice and assistance, which are inherently intangible. In India, social work is an emerging profession, and there is often confusion regarding the various terms used in classroom teaching, research, and practice with people in need. To ensure effective professional practice, it is necessary to provide clarity and definitions for these terms and highlight the distinctions between similar concepts used in social work. These concepts are also used in other social sciences such as sociology and psychology, from which social work has drawn heavily. Some of the important concepts discussed here include charity, shramdan (voluntary labour), social action, social defense, social justice, social movement, social network, social policy, social reform, social security, social services, social welfare, and social work.

CHAPTER AT A GLANCE

CHARITY, VOLUNTARY ACTION AND SHRAMDAN

Charity: There is a misconception about social work, with many people incorrectly considering charity, particularly the giving of alms, as social work. However, charity is distinct from social work and is often motivated by an expectation of material reward. Various organized religions worldwide promote charity as a virtue. In the Hindu religion, charity is highly valued and seen as a spiritual practice and a duty for every householder. The Rig Veda, the oldest Hindu scripture, praises the god Rudra for his generosity. It is emphasized that charity should be given to deserving

individuals, and there are cautionary teachings about supporting undeserving individuals who engage in wrongful actions. Charity holds great importance in various religious traditions. In Judaism, adherents are instructed to obey God and care for their neighbours, emphasizing love for one's neighbor as a fundamental duty. Christianity promotes brotherly love and encourages believers to help those in need, with Jesus Christ emphasizing the importance of caring for the hungry, thirsty, and vulnerable. In Islam, charity is considered equivalent to prayer. Muslims are required to contribute to the public treasury and engage in acts of generosity, hospitality, and provision for the less fortunate.

In various religious traditions, acts of charity are prescribed, such as distributing wheat, sacrificing animals, or giving alms during important ceremonies. It is important to note that charity, whether in the form of cash or goods, differs from social work. While charity provides temporary relief, social work aims to empower individuals and communities through service and systemic change, enabling self-help and addressing underlying social issues. In summary, various religious traditions emphasize acts of charity and compassionate service, with the goal of providing temporary relief and fostering self-help and capacity building. Social work, on the other hand, extends beyond charity by addressing systemic issues and promoting long-term empowerment.

Voluntary Action: Compassion is an innate human urge that drives people to help those in distress. Human needs encompass physical, psychological, social, and spiritual aspects, extending beyond mere survival to include love, affection, autonomy, respect, recognition, and self-actualization. People often extend their helping hand to the needy out of natural feelings of altruism, devotion, and dedication to serving humanity or their own society.

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While voluntary actions may be motivated by various intentions, such as the desire for spiritual rewards or liberation from the cycle of birth and death, individuals generally do not expect tangible material returns for their acts of charity, assistance, or service. Voluntary action involves people willingly and compassionately providing help or services, individually or collectively, without seeking personal material gains.

Shramdan (Voluntary Manual Labour): Shramdan, which originated in Hindi, refers to the voluntary act of contributing manual labour for the collective good or the protection of common public interests. It involves characteristics such as manual labour, voluntariness, collective and cooperative endeavours, and the promotion of public welfare. There are numerous examples of collective efforts where groups of people contribute their manual labor to bring about positive changes in the quality of life. The government has also launched programs like the National Service Scheme and the National Cadet Corps, which encourage educated youth to volunteer their labor for the betterment of communities, aiming to promote the dignity of labour and instill it as a part of the youth's personality. Overall, Shramdan holds immense significance as it embodies the spirit of collective action, community engagement, and the pursuit of common welfare through voluntary manual labour.

Shramdan and social work differ in terms of objectives, methods, techniques, and philosophy. Shramdan focuses on accomplishing concrete tasks using voluntary manual labour, primarily for the public good and without expecting personal gain. On the other hand, social work aims to enhance the social functioning of individuals and bring about desired changes in the social system. Social work requires a specialized body of knowledge and technical skills for its effective performance. Shramdan focuses on concrete tasks accomplished through voluntary manual labour, while social work aims to improve social functioning and bring about positive changes in the social system, guided by democratic and humanitarian principles.

SOCIAL MOVEMENT AND SOCIAL REFORM

Social Movement: The term 'social movement' is used in various ways by different social activists, political scientists, sociologists, and other individuals. There is often a lack of consensus or clear agreement on

its precise definition, leading to differing interpretations and understandings of the term. According to Diani (1992), there is a significant absence of a shared understanding, even on an empirical level, regarding the usage of the term 'social movement'.

According to various scholars, such as McAdam *et. al.* (1988), Madden (1995), and Fuchs and Linkenbach (2003), the term 'social movement' encompasses a range of collective social and political phenomena. These movements can take the form of revolutions, religious sects, population or single-issue campaigns, resistance against colonialism, and more. Social movements involve organized efforts by a group of individuals who share a common belief and seek to effect or resist changes in the existing social order through non-institutionalized means.

The salient features of a social movement: Key features of a social movement include discontentment with the current social structure, the need to protect and promote neglected interests, the desire for social recognition, and the aspiration to lead a dignified life. Social movements are characterized by awareness, commitment, and organization, as well as the initiation of agreed-upon activities according to a planned schedule. They often reference ideas such as autonomy, equity, human dignity, human rights, and the removal of social evils.

Social movements can take various forms, including revolts, rebellions, reforms, or revolutions, and employ methods like protests, demonstrations, strikes, and more. They are transient and lack a distinct point of origin or termination. Various factors can give rise to social movements, including societal ills like Sati, untouchability, dowry, deforestation, child labour, bonded labour, and the exploitation by dominant groups or sections of society. Religious sects, ideologies contradicting democratic principles, or discriminatory practices can also trigger discontent and the formation of social movements.

Social movements arise from a variety of factors, including the condemnation of certain cultures, attempts to change or endanger cultural identities, empowerment and sustainable development issues, and the protection of regional interests. Education and technological advancements have contributed to the emergence of social movements focused on leading a life with decency, respect, and freedom. Participants in social movements analyze and interpret the situation to determine the best course of action and establish organizations to further their objectives. While not

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all social movements succeed, their participants strive to achieve their goals. Once objectives are met, movements make way for new ones relevant to the needs of society. Social movements play a crucial role in bringing about desired changes, eradicating social evils, and preventing abuse and exploitation, aligning with the core concerns of social work. While they do not completely transform the social fabric, they create opportunities for the convergence of old and new values and structures.

Social Reform: Social reform emerges when society experiences cultural degeneration and widespread social evils due to the loss of the original purpose behind customs and traditions. It involves the deliberate effort to improve and amend what is wrong, corrupt, unsatisfactory, or harmful to human and social development. Social reform aims to eradicate immoral, unhealthy, and corrupt practices, facilitating positive changes within society.

Social reform can be defined as deliberate collective and non-violent efforts made by like-minded individuals who recognize certain practices in their society as hindrances to social progress and human development. It aims to eradicate these practices without completely overthrowing the existing social system, which is generally considered satisfactory.

Major characteristics of social reform: Characteristics of social reform include identifying social evils, collective efforts to mitigate and eliminate them, non-violent methods, and an overall satisfaction with the prevailing societal conditions.

While there are similarities between social reform and revolt, such as dissatisfaction with existing conditions and the desire for desired changes, the key differences lie in the level of overall satisfaction with the social system and the scope of transformation. Social reformers generally seek specific changes in certain areas of society, working within the existing framework, whereas revolutionaries aim to radically overhaul or even overthrow the entire social structure and system.

The study of social reform is important for professional social workers as it aligns with their goal of improving social functioning and bringing about desired changes in the social structure. By addressing social evils and unhealthy practices, social workers contribute to positive social transformation.

SOCIAL NETWORK

A social network refers to an articulated pattern of connections in the social relations of individuals,

groups, and collectivities. It originated in the 1930s and was initially used to describe the interweaving and interlocking nature of social relationships. The term gained further prominence with the introduction of sociograms by Jacob L. Moreno in social psychology. In social work, a social network specifically refers to the interconnection of like-minded voluntary organizations, community-based organizations, and non-governmental organizations pursuing similar objectives. These networks aim to work together in a coordinated and effective manner.

Key characteristics of social networks in social work include like-minded organizations, shared objectives, and mutual reinforcement for the protection and promotion of common interests.

Social networks in social work are characterized by the contribution and shared commitment of like-minded NGOs, VOs, and CBOs. They undertake various programs and activities, functioning to protect and promote common interests. These networks adhere to a mutually agreed-upon code of conduct and play a crucial role in resource mobilization, public opinion formation, and the well-being of marginalized populations. They contribute to socio-economic development and the eradication of social evils, enabling effective functioning and human development.

CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q. 1. What is Charity?

Ans. Charity refers to the act of voluntarily giving assistance, support, or resources to individuals, groups, or organizations in need. It involves acts of kindness, generosity, and compassion towards others who are less fortunate or facing difficulties. Charity can take various forms, including providing financial aid, donating goods or services, volunteering time and skills, or advocating for social causes. The purpose of charity is to alleviate suffering, improve the well-being of others, and promote social welfare. It is driven by empathy, goodwill, and a desire to make a positive impact on individuals and communities.

Q. 2. What are the main characteristics of voluntary action?

Ans. The main characteristics of voluntary action include voluntary participation of individuals willingly and consciously engage in activities or initiatives without any external obligation. Voluntary action is driven by a selfless desire to help others or contribute to the well-being of society. It is motivated

by compassion, empathy, and a sense of social responsibility. Voluntary action is typically unpaid and done without expecting any financial compensation or personal gain. Volunteers offer their time, skills, and resources out of goodwill and a desire to make a positive impact. Volunteers have the freedom to choose the causes or organizations they want to support and the specific tasks or roles they wish to undertake. They can exercise independent decision-making and initiative within the scope of their voluntary involvement. Voluntary action often emerges from the community level, with individuals or local groups taking initiative to address social needs or pursue specific objectives. It can involve informal networks, community-based organizations, or larger nonprofit organizations. Voluntary action promotes active citizenship and civic participation. It encourages individuals to engage in the social, cultural, and political aspects of their communities, advocating for positive change and working towards common goals. Voluntary action is commonly associated with nonprofit organizations and initiatives that operate for the public benefit rather than for profit. It often supports social, humanitarian, environmental, or advocacy causes.

Q. 3. What is the significance of social movement for social work?

Ans. Social movements play a significant role in the field of social work. They are collective efforts by individuals and groups to bring about social change and address specific social, political, or economic issues. Social movements often advocate for marginalized and oppressed populations, striving for social justice and equality. Social workers, who are committed to promoting social justice, can collaborate with social movements to raise awareness, challenge discriminatory practices, and advocate for policy changes that address the needs and rights of vulnerable populations. Social movements mobilize communities around shared concerns and issues. They create opportunities for social workers to engage with communities, build relationships, and understand the lived experiences of individuals affected by social problems. Social movements raise public awareness about specific social issues and challenge dominant narratives. Through protests, demonstrations, campaigns, and social media, they bring attention to injustices and mobilize public opinion. Social movements are often comprised of diverse organizations, groups, and individuals working towards a common goal. Social workers can join forces with these movements to amplify

their impact. Social movements can influence policy and bring about systemic change. They put pressure on governments, institutions, and decision-makers to address social problems and implement policy reforms. Social movements provide social workers with opportunities to advance social justice, collaborate with communities, raise awareness, influence policy, and grow both personally and professionally. By joining forces with social movements, social workers can contribute to the larger goal of creating a more equitable and just society.

Q. 4. What is the significance of social network for social work?

Ans. Social networks play a significant role in the field of social work. A social network refers to the connections and relationships between individuals, groups, organizations, and communities.

Social networks provide support and resources that can be crucial for individuals and communities facing social challenges. These networks can provide emotional support, practical assistance, access to information and other resources that can help individuals navigate difficult situations. Social networks facilitate collaboration and partnerships among social workers and other professionals, organizations, and community members. Social networks are essential for community development and empowerment. By promoting connections and relationships within communities, social workers can empower community members to mobilize their resources, address community needs, and engage in grassroots initiatives. Social networks are powerful platforms for disseminating information and raising awareness about social issues, services, and resources. In summary, social networks are significant for social work as they provide avenues for support, collaboration, information dissemination, service access, community empowerment, and advocacy.

OTHER IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Q. 1. Comment on Shramdan.

Ans. Shramdan, also known as voluntary labour or self-help work, is a concept that emphasizes the importance of individuals actively participating in community service and development projects. It involves individuals voluntarily offering their time, skills, and labour to address various social and environmental issues. Shramdan can be a powerful tool for fostering a sense of community, solidarity, and collective responsibility. It provides an opportunity for personal growth, skill development, and the acquisition