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Hannah Stavros-Mccauley
hstav926@live.kutztown.edu

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Hannah Stavros-McCauley

CMP 200 9am-10:50am

What Can Upcoming Child Social Workers Do Differently Than Recent Child Social Workers?

When college students first go into the social work field, they must take Intro to Social Work which introduces the NASW Code of Ethics. The NASW Code of Ethics introduces six core values and these purposes explain what social workers are shooting for when working with clients. The six core values are services, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence. When it comes to service the social workers, the main goal is to help their clients in need. The main goal that social workers focus on social justice is poverty, unemployment, discrimination, and other forms of social injustice. The importance of human relationship's goal is to strengthen relationships among their clients to enhance the well-being of families, social groups, individuals, and communities. Social workers should be able to treat their clients with respect and caring matter which leads to the dignity and worth of a person's core value. The next core value integrity is very important when working in the social work field because social workers should behave in a trustworthy manner. They should keep the relationship with their clients very professional and be aware of their mission. As well as being able to act honestly and responsibly. The last core value is competence focuses on social workers increasing their knowledge and skills and to apply them in practice. These are core values that social workers should follow when going into the workforce, but recent social workers

have not which leads to the wicked problem of what can future social workers that are studying social work do better than recent social workers now.

From Hlousek's article, she argues that children aren't that responsible, but they are human beings and should be subjects of the law (2020). Child social workers should see children as human beings and should take their perspective into consideration. I claim that upcoming child social workers can do things differently than recent child social workers because some to this day make mistakes. Some of the mistakes may be giving more attention to one case than another and making the clients feel shame or guilt. According to Zoe Chouliara's article, adult survivors from sexual abuse talk about how they felt their social workers didn't really give their case enough attention, how they felt unsafe, and their past experiences as a child about sexual abuse (2011). The core value that I think about when reading these articles combined is competence because recent social workers should reach out for enhancing their studies and work.

Most social workers gather their information first through unstructured observations and indirect interactions and process information by writing down sequences of actions and tasks. The first thing a child social worker should do is understand and build trust with the child. They want the child to feel safe but there can't be any relationship. It must be professional. In Wesley's article, 29 social workers get interviewed and they discuss a child's well-being and their practice experience (2020). The article extends on to speaking about social workers should have a good understanding of the child's well-being in order to properly measure, promote, and intervene to secure that the child is in good care. The article also gives a good look at the clients' rough past so we the readers get a better understanding of behind the

scenes. Lastly, the main core value that I would compare this article to is integrity because social workers need to act in a trustworthy manner when around clients.

On the other hand, Ferguson claims that social workers need to be helped to think clearly about children and relate to them in close ways that are required to keep them safe (2017). Ferguson also reveals that children have died from the abuse which shows that social workers need to find a better way to connect with the child. The core value that this article lacks is the importance of human relationship because obviously the social worker from the article didn't seem to be close if the child passed. Like just talking to them so they don't feel uncomfortable or scared. You want to build that trust so they know that they can talk to you. The child is most likely scared and doesn't know what's going to happen to them. Giving them that reassurance is key.

Tim Moore touches on methods of keeping and making sure the child feels safe in his article (2017). The Australian Government helped to prevent sexual abuse in the future and studied methods to explore what children need to be safe and feel safe. The first phase of their study involved focus groups that carried out 4-17-year-old children from different institutions. The study focused on how children conceptualize safety and how they made judgments about different levels of safety. They found that the idea that being safe and feeling safe are two distinct and that safety is identified and experienced as a set of feelings. Another idea that trusting relationships with children is a form of safety. Familiarity helps the child feel safe as well. The main core value I would comparing this article to would be service because the goal is to make your clients feel safe and the client should be able to help the client.

Pryce introduces in her article racial disparity and explains that it has been a longstanding issue within child welfare (2019). Pryce emphasizes the fact that black children are troubling more than white children. The point Pryce is trying to get across is that black children aren't getting more attention than white children when it shouldn't be a race issue. This relates to one of the mistakes that social workers pay attention to one case more than another. The main core value that would be compared to this would be social justice because social workers should avoid any discrimination going on.

With the information, I presented I want future social workers to take their work seriously and understand that child social workers have a lot on their plates. Future social workers should take this information and put it into their work, so it gives them a better understanding of what they're studying and see what they're getting themselves into when studying social work. Recent social workers still get some things wrong, but it doesn't mean future social workers can't make a difference by taking in the right information. They can take in this type of information by keeping what they're taught and applying it to their work always.

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