



**SOCIAL WORK**

МИНИСТЕРСТВО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ И НАУКИ РФ  
ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОЕ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОЕ БЮДЖЕТНОЕ  
ОБРАЗОВАТЕЛЬНОЕ УЧРЕЖДЕНИЕ ВЫСШЕГО  
ПРОФЕССИОНАЛЬНОГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ  
УДМУРТСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ  
ФАКУЛЬТЕТ ПРОФЕССИОНАЛЬНОГО ИНОСТРАННОГО ЯЗЫКА

# **Social Work**

**Практическое пособие по английскому языку  
для магистрантов направления  
«Социальная работа»**

**Ижевск 2011**

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**Составитель: доцент ФПИЯ, к.пс.н.  
Астраханцева Ю.Л.**

Рецензент: к.пс.н. Кожевникова О.В.

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магистрантов направления «Социальная работа»,  
всем, интересующимся вопросами возникновения  
и осуществления социальной работы в разных  
странах мира на английском языке.

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## Предисловие

Предлагаемое пособие предназначено для магистрантов 1,2 курсов направления «Социальная работа».

Пособие содержит аутентичный текстовый материал общенаучного характера для аудиторной и самостоятельной работы с целью формирования иноязычной коммуникативной компетенции, межкультурной компетенции, профессиональной компетенции, необходимой для квалифицированной информационной и производственной деятельности, а также для научной работы на начальном ее этапе.

Пособие способствует формированию у магистрантов умения самостоятельно работать с научно-популярными и научными текстами в области изучения социальной работы.

Особенностью пособия является наличие выделенной лексики в девяти представленных текстах, отраженной в словаре в заключение каждого текста.

*Желаем успеха!*

## Text 1

### Social work

Social work is a professional and academic discipline committed to the **pursuit** of social welfare, social change and social justice. The field works towards research and practice to improve the quality of life and to the development of the potential of each individual, group and community of a society. Social workers perform **interventions** through research, policy, community organizing, direct practice and teaching. Research is often focused on areas such as human development, social policy, public administration, program evaluation and international and community development. Social workers are organized into local, national, continental and international professional bodies. Social work, an interdisciplinary field, includes theories from economics, education,

sociology, medicine, philosophy, politics, psychology, and as well as **anti-oppressive** and anti-racist discourse.

### ***Contemporary professional development***

The International Federation of Social Workers states, of social work today, that

"social work bases its methodology on a systematic body of evidence-based knowledge derived from research and practice evaluation, including local and **indigenous** knowledge specific to its context. It recognizes the complexity of interactions between human beings and their environment, and the capacity of people both to be affected by and to **alter** the multiple influences upon them including bio-psychosocial factors. The social work profession draws on theories of human development, social

theory and social systems to analyse complex situations and to facilitate individual, organizational, social and cultural changes."

A hopeful development for bridging this gap is the **compilation** of collections of "best practices" which attempt to **distill** research findings and the experience of respected social work practitioners, educators and researchers into effective interventions. Another important contemporary development in the profession is overcoming **suspicion** of technology and taking advantage of the potential of information technology.

### ***Role of the professional***

The main tasks of professional social workers can include a variety of services such as case management (linking users/clients with agencies and programs that

will meet their psychosocial needs - mainly common in US and UK), clinical social work (counseling & psychotherapy), human services management, social welfare policy analysis, policy and practice development, community organizing, international, social and community development, advocacy, teaching (in schools of social work), and social and political research.

### *Vocabulary*

pursuit – стремление, поиски

interventions – вмешательство

oppressive – жестокий, подавляющий

struggle – борьба, напряжение, усилие, трудность

poverty – бедность, нищета, нужда

intricately – запутанно, сложно, замысловато

charity – благотворительность

indigenous – местный, природный

alter – изменять, менять

compilation – объединение, слияние

distill – очищать

suspicion – подозрение, слабое подобие

### **Text 2**

## **History of social work**

Social work has its roots in the **struggle** of society to deal with **poverty** and the problems associated with it. Therefore, social work is **intricately** linked with the idea of **charity** work; but must be understood in broader terms. The concept of charity goes back to ancient times, and the practice of providing for the poor has roots in all major world religions.

### ***Pre-Modern history***

In the West, when Constantine I legalized the Christian Church, the newly legitimised church set up poorhouses, homes for the aged, hospitals, and **orphanages**. These were often **funded**, at least in part, from grants from the Empire. By 590 AD the church had a system for circulating the **consumables** to the poor: associated with each parish was a *diaconium* or office of the deacon. As there was no effective bureaucracy below city government that was capable of charitable activities, the clergy served this role in the west up through the 18th century. During the Middle Ages, the Christian church had vast influence on European society and charity was considered to be a responsibility and a sign of one's piety. This charity was in the form of direct relief (for example, giving money, food, or other material goods to alleviate a particular need), as **opposed** to trying to

change the root causes of poverty. The practice and profession of social work has a relatively modern (19th century) and scientific origin.

### ***Modern history***

Social work, as a profession, originated in the 19th century. The movement began primarily in the United States and England. After the end of feudalism, the poor were seen as a more direct threat to the social order, and so the state formed an organized system to care for them. In England, the Poor Law served this purpose. This system of laws sorted the poor into different categories, such as the able bodied poor, the impotent poor, and the idle poor. This system developed different responses to these different groups. The 19th century **ushered** in the Industrial Revolution. There was a great leap in technological and scientific achievement, but there was also a great

migration to urban areas throughout the Western world. This led to many social problems, which in turn led to an increase in social activism. Also with the dawn of the 19th century came a great "missionary" push from many Protestant denominations. Some of these mission efforts (urban missions), attempted to resolve the problems inherent in large cities like poverty, prostitution, disease, and other afflictions. In the United States workers known as "friendly visitors", stipended by church and other charitable bodies, worked through direct relief, prayer, and evangelism to alleviate these problems. In Europe, chaplains or almoners were appointed to administer the church's mission to the poor. In 1915, at the National Conference of Charities and Corrections, Dr. Abraham Flexner spoke on the topic "Is Social Work a Profession?" He contended that it was not because it lacked specialized knowledge and specific application

of theoretical and intellectual knowledge to solve human and social problems. This led to the professionalization of social work, concentrating on case work and the scientific method.

### *English History*

The growth of social work in England as a discipline had similar parallels to the American experience of mass migration and social **upheaval**. The Industrial Revolution was a major cause of these changes, as social and economic conditions changed, resulting in the massive growth of cities. The first social workers were called hospital **almoners**, and were based in medical institutions. The Royal Free Hospital hired Mary Stewart as the first almoner in 1895. Her role was to assess people requesting treatment at the hospital to ensure that they were considered "deserving enough" of the free treatment. The role soon developed to cover the provision of other social



programs, and by 1905 other hospitals had created similar roles. By this time, the Hospital Almoners Council had been formed to oversee the new profession.

### *Vocabulary*

struggle – борьба, напряжение, усилие, трудность

poverty – бедность, нищета, нужда

intricately – запутанно, сложно, замысловато

charity – благотворительность

orphanages – сиротский приют

funded – финансируемый

consumable – потребляемый, расходуемый

opposed – отвергающий, противоречащий

usher – сопровождать, вводить

upheaval – подъем, переворот, бунт

almoner – работник органов социального обеспечения

### Text 3

## Nature of the Work

Social work is a profession for those with a strong desire to help improve people's lives. Social workers **assist** people by helping them cope with and solve issues in their everyday lives, such as family and personal problems and **dealing** with relationships. Some social workers help clients who face a disability, life-threatening disease, social problem, such as **inadequate housing**, unemployment, or substance abuse. Social workers also assist families that have serious **domestic** conflicts, sometimes involving child or spousal abuse. Additionally, they may conduct research, advocate for improved services, or become involved in planning or policy development. Many social workers specialize in serving a particular population or working in a specific setting. In all

settings, these workers may also be called licensed clinical social workers, if they hold the appropriate State mandated license.

Work environment. Social workers usually spend most of their time in an office or residential facility, but they also may travel locally to visit clients, meet with service providers, or attend meetings. Some may meet with clients in one of several offices within a local area. Social work, while satisfying, can be challenging. Understaffing and large **caseloads** add to the pressure in some agencies. Full-time social workers usually work a standard 40-hour week, but some **occasionally** work evenings and weekends to meet with clients, attend community meetings, and handle emergencies. Some work part time, particularly in voluntary nonprofit agencies.

Child, family, and school social workers provide social services and assistance to improve the

social and psychological functioning of children and their families. Workers in this field assess their client's needs and **offer** assistance to improve their situation. This often includes coordinating available services to assist a child or family. They may assist single parents in finding day care, arrange **adoptions**, or help find foster homes for **neglected, abandoned,** or **abused** children. These workers may specialize in working with a particular problem, population or setting, such as child protective services, adoption, homelessness, **domestic** violence, or foster care.

Medical and public health social workers provide psychosocial support to individuals, families, or **vulnerable** populations so they can cope with chronic, **acute**, or **terminal** illnesses, such as Alzheimer's disease, cancer, or AIDS. They also advise family caregivers, counsel patients, and help plan for patients' needs after discharge from hospitals.

They may arrange for at-home services, such as **meals-on-wheels** or home care. Some work on interdisciplinary teams that evaluate certain kinds of patients, such as **geriatric** or organ transplant patients.

In schools, social workers often serve as the link between students' families and the school, working with parents, guardians, teachers, and other school officials to ensure that students reach their academic and personal potential. They also assist students in dealing with stress or emotional problems. Many school social workers work **directly** with children with disabilities and their families. In addition, they address problems such as misbehavior, **truancy**, teenage pregnancy, and drug and alcohol problems and advise teachers on how to cope with difficult students. School social workers may teach workshops to entire classes on topics like conflict **resolution**.

Other types of social workers include social work administrators, researchers, planners and policymakers, who develop and implement programs to address issues such as child abuse, homelessness, substance abuse, poverty, and violence. These workers research and analyze policies, programs, and regulations. They identify social problems and suggest legislative and other solutions. They may help raise funds or write grants to support these programs.

### *Vocabulary*

assist – помощь

dealing – поведение

inadequate housing – неудовлетворительные жилищные условия

domestic – внутренний

caseload – нагрузка

occasionally – иногда

offer – предлагать  
adoption – усыновление  
neglected – забытый  
abandoned – брошенный  
to be abused – подвергаться насилию  
domestic – домашний  
vulnerable – уязвимый  
acute – острый  
terminal – неизлечимый  
Meals-on-wheels - доставка горячей пищи на дом  
инвалидам  
geriatric - страдающий старческими болезнями  
directly – непосредственно  
truancy – прогул  
resolution – решение

#### Text 4

## Social work knowledge building

The International Federation of Social Workers states, of social work today, "social work bases its methodology on a systematic body of evidence-based knowledge derived from research and practice evaluation, including local and **indigenous** knowledge specific to its context. It recognizes the complexity of interactions between human beings and their environment, and the capacity of people both to be affected by and to **alter** the multiple influences upon them including bio-psychosocial factors. The social work profession draws on theories of human development and behaviour and social systems to analyse complex

situations and to facilitate individual, organizational, social and cultural changes."

The **impetus** for both movements was the glaring reality of social problems and the question over how to best attack them. This debate is arguably the earliest example of a larger debate within social work – how is knowledge acquired? This debate pits positivism against post-positivism in the pursuit of achieving respect as a profession. The positivistic argument asserts knowledge has to be observable and testable (quantitative), free from **bias**, and ultimately replicable if it is to have any merit. Post-positivists argue there is no way to completely eliminate bias, and knowledge can be obtained via qualitative research methods.

The debate reached its greatest intensity in the 1980s, reflecting the debate within the larger world of the social sciences. Subsequently, most of those interested

in social work knowledge building have joined in a consensus that both perspectives are necessary to fully understand the complex realities encountered by social work practitioners. Today, most text books intended for social work research courses, while they may devote more pages to quantitative approaches, also include one or more chapters on qualitative approaches, and make an effort not to favor one over the other.

Meanwhile, practitioners, and often educators in social work practice, have felt left out of the debate. A frequent complaint was that social work programs were favoring research over practice skills in faculty hiring, thus weakening their ability to teach practice skills to new practitioners. The reliance among practitioners on shared practice wisdom, and the development of skills and techniques through clinical

supervision and mentorship was not considered as valid as knowledge building by either camp. There have been attempts to bridge the gap between practice-based knowledge and knowledge **obtained** through more formal research approaches. One such strategy is single-subject research--also known as Single Subject Design (SSD), in which the clinician, working together with the client, carefully specifies a target of intervention, then measures its frequency, duration, intensity, or any relevant characteristics during a baseline period when no intervention is tried. Following this, an intervention is introduced, and measurement of the target problem is continued. Two claims made for SSD were that it would improve clinical work, since effectiveness of interventions could be determined, and that single cases could be aggregated into research reports, which, published, would constitute an empirically verified set of

interventions for clinical use. Although SSD has been championed by social work graduate programs for more than two decades, there is little evidence that it has been widely adopted by social work practitioners.

The current state of social work professional development is characterized by two realities. There is a great deal of traditional social and psychological research (both qualitative and quantitative) being carried out primarily by university-based researchers and by researchers based in institutes, foundations, or social service agencies. Meanwhile, the many social work **practitioners** continue to look to their own experience for knowledge. This is a continuation of the debate that has persisted since the outset of the profession in the first decade of the twentieth century. One reason for the practice-research gap is that practitioners deal with situations that are unique and

idiosyncratic, while research deals with regularities and aggregates. The translation between the two is often imperfect. A hopeful development for bridging this gap is the compilation in many practice fields of collections of "best practices," largely taken from research findings, but also distilled from the experience of respected practitioners.

### *Vocabulary*

indigenous - местный, природный

alter – изменять, менять

impetus – стремительность, побуждение

bias – предвзятость

obtained – получать, приобретать

practitioner – исполнитель, деятель

### Text 5

## **Role of the professional social worker**

The main tasks of professional social workers are case management (linking clients with agencies and programs that will meet their psychosocial needs), medical social work, counseling (psychotherapy), human services management, social welfare policy analysis, community organizing, advocacy, teaching (in schools of social work), and social science research.

Professional social workers work in a variety of settings, including: non-profit or public social service agencies, **grassroots** advocacy organizations, hospitals, hospices, community health agencies, schools, faith-based organizations, and even the military. Other social workers work as

psychotherapists, **counselors**, or mental health practitioners, normally working in coordination with psychiatrists, psychologists, or other medical professionals. Additionally, some social workers have chosen to direct the focus of their efforts on social policy or academic research towards the practice or ethics of social work. While the emphasis has varied among these task areas in different eras and countries, some areas have been the subject of controversy as to whether they are properly part of social work's mission.

### ***United States***

In the United States of America, leaders and scholars in the field of social work have debated the purpose and nature of the profession since its beginning in the late 19th century. Workers, beginning with the settlement house movement, have argued for a focus

on social reform, political activism, and systemic causes of poverty. Social workers of the Settlement House Movement were primarily young women from middle-income families and chose to live in lower-income neighbourhoods to **engage** in community organizing. These workers sometimes received stipends from charitable organizations and sometimes worked for free. In contrast to the settlement house movement, the friendly visitors were women from middle-income families who visited (but did not reside among) families in lower-income neighbourhoods. Friendly visitors emphasized conventional morality (such as thrift and abstinence from alcohol) rather than social activism.

Others have advocated an emphasis on direct practice, aid to individual clients and families with targeted material assistance or interventions using the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental diseases.



While social work has been defined as direct, individual practice in the last quarter of the 20th century, there is a growing resurgence of community practice in social work. Community practice is the new term of art for what used to be known as "macro practice" social work. Community practice includes working for change at the systems level, including human services management (administration, planning, marketing, and program development); community organizing (community development, grassroots organizing, policy advocacy); social policy and politics; and international social development. Private practice was not part of the social work profession when it began in the late 19th century. It has been controversial among social workers, some of whom feel that the more **lucrative** opportunities of private practice have led many social workers to abandon the field's historic mission of assisting

disadvantaged populations. The private practice model can be at odds with the community development and political activism strains of social work. Some social workers are child welfare workers, a role that looms large in the public's perception of social work. This role contributes to a negative view of social work in the U.S., since child welfare authorities can remove abused or neglected children from the custody of their parents, a practice that is fraught with controversy and sometimes with scandalous incompetence. Many child welfare workers in the US do not in fact have social work degrees.

### *United Kingdom*

In the United Kingdom and elsewhere, a social worker is a trained professional with a recognised social work qualification, employed most commonly in the public sector by local authorities. Spending on social services

departments is a major component of British local government expenditure. In Social care UK, the title "social worker" is protected by law (since 1 April 2005) and can be used only by people who have a recognised qualification and are registered with the General Social Care Council (in England), the Scottish Social Services Council, the Care Council for Wales (Welsh: *Cyngor Gofal Cymru*), or the Northern Ireland Social Care Council. The strategic direction of statutory social work in Britain is broadly divided into children's and adults' services. Social work activity within England and Wales for children and young people is under the remit of the Department for Children, Schools and Families while the same for adults remains the responsibility for the Department of Health. Within local authorities, this division is usually reflected in the organisation of social services departments. In 2007, the General Social Care Council

**launched** a wide-ranging consultation, in concert with a number of other social care organisations, to agree a clear professional understanding of social work in the UK.

### ***Vocabulary***

grassroots – основа, источник, массы, простые люди

counselor – советник

engage - привлекать

lucrative – прибыльный, выгодный, доходный

launch - запускать

### **Text 6**

## **The psychological aspect of social work**

The main purpose of psychological **provision** of social work is to prepare the psyche of citizens who

find themselves in difficult situations of life, to a stable, reliable and relevant developments on the **ground operation**. In this psychological support social work draws on psychology, psychophysiology, sociology, theory of social work, law and other sciences and their recommendations for practice.

In general we can say that the psychological support of social work - an activity, expressed as a system of targeted activities to build citizens who need social assistance, such personality traits and such mental states (both for individuals and for whole groups), which necessary for their effective functioning in difficult situations and **circumstances**.

Complex of targeted psychological **interventions** of social work, agreed on the objectives, content, sequencing of the applied forces and means can be structured along the following lines:

- Professional and Activity;

- Socio-psychological;
- Individual and personal.

The object of social work are the people who need outside help: the **elderly**, pensioners, invalids, seriously ill, children, people caught in difficult circumstances - trouble, the unemployed, migrants, young people who find themselves in bad company, a person with no fixed abode, and returned from detention citizens; addicts, patients with alcoholism and other people

All of assisting the needy does a subject of social work. To the subject are all those people and organizations that conduct social work and govern it. This nation as a **whole**, exercising social policy. This **charitable** organization, public **charity** such as Red Cross and **Red Crescent Societies**, the Salvation Army, Doctors Without Borders, etc. It Karitos and public organizations: Children's Fund, the Russian

Association of Human Services, the Association of social workers and social workers, the Union soldiers-internationalists - participants in the war in Afghanistan, the Union of Officers, etc. But the main subject of social work are the people involved in social work professionally or on a voluntary basis.

Accordingly, this approach can select an object and the subject of psychological provision of social work.

The object of psychological support may be a certain person in a difficult situation of social interaction (drug addicts, prostitutes, ex-prisoners) or a group of needy people (migrants, disabled), the professional activities of social workers.

The subject of psychological provision of social work is the **willingness** of mind to **overcome** the challenges of mental life and resistance to stress factors of social **environment**.

Subject of psychological support may be a city administration, district, region, service and social **welfare** specialists, psychologists, and specific personality - the carriers of psychological qualities necessary to overcome the difficult situations of life of the population.

Also, **keep in mind** that psychological support is carried out in accordance with the dynamics of economic, legal and socio-psychological situation in a region of Russia.

Psychological support of social work is characterized by the fact that:

1) is a key component in **ensuring** the activities of social assistance services to those in need categories of the population of the Russian Federation and is **on a par** with economic, legal, financial, technical, ethical, and other types of software;

2) covers the all environment of spiritual life of people who need social assistance, keep in mind the **impact** on all **spheres** of the psyche: motivational, cognitive, emotional and volitional, that allows to prepare the will and the **nature** of human to safe operation under extreme conditions in which it was;

3) **extends** to all aspects of life in need of assistance a person as an **equal** member of civil society, in order to implement all its socio-legal, cultural, ethical, social and religious needs, rights, guarantees, changing and updating to the economic and legal situation in country;

4) is the most important factor in **achieving** the efficiency of the social work as a sphere of state interests;

### *Vocabulary*

provision – обеспечение

ground operation – функционирование

circumstances – обстоятельства

intervention – мероприятие

elderly – старики

as a whole – в целом

charitable - благотворительность

Red Crescent Societies – общество «Красного Полумесяца»

willingness – готовность

overcome – преодолевать

environment – среда

welfare – защита

keep in mind – учитывать

ensuring – обеспечение

on a par – в одном ряду с

impact – воздействие

sphere – сфера

nature – характер

extend – распространяться

equal – равноправный

achieving – достижения

### Text 7

## Purpose of the NASW Code of Ethics

Professional ethics are at the core of social work. The profession has an obligation to articulate its basic values, ethical principles, and ethical standards. The **NASW** Code of Ethics sets forth these values, principles, and standards to guide social workers' conduct. The *Code* is **relevant** to all social workers and social work students, **regardless** of their professional functions, the settings in which they work, or the populations they serve.

The **NASW** Code of Ethics serves six purposes:

1. The Code identifies core values on which social work's mission is based.

2. The *Code* summarizes broad ethical principles that reflect the profession's core values and establishes a set of specific ethical standards that should be used to guide social work practice.

3. The *Code* is designed to help social workers identify **relevant** considerations when professional obligations conflict or ethical uncertainties **arise**.

4. The *Code* provides ethical standards to which the general public can hold the social work profession **accountable**.

5. The *Code* socializes practitioners new to the field to social work's mission, values, ethical principles, and ethical standards.

6. The *Code* articulates standards that the social work profession itself can use to assess whether social workers have engaged in unethical conduct. NASW has formal procedures to **adjudicate** ethics complaints filed against its members. In subscribing to this *Code*, social workers are required to cooperate in its **implementation**, participate in NASW adjudication proceedings, and abide by any NASW disciplinary rulings or sanctions based on it.

The *Code* offers a set of values, principles, and standards to guide decision making and conduct when ethical issues arise. It does not provide a set of rules that prescribe how social workers should act in all situations. Specific applications of the *Code* must take into account the context in which it is being considered and the possibility of conflicts among the *Code's* values, principles, and standards. Ethical **responsibilities** flow from all human relationships,

from the personal and familial to the social and professional.

Further, the *NASW Code of Ethics* does not specify which values, principles, and standards are most important and ought **to outweigh** others in instances when they conflict. Reasonable differences of opinion can and do exist among social workers with respect to the ways in which values, ethical principles, and ethical standards should be rank ordered when they conflict. Ethical decision making in a given situation must apply the informed judgment of the individual social worker and should also consider how the issues would be judged in a **peer** review process where the ethical standards of the profession would be applied.

Instances may arise when social workers' ethical obligations conflict with agency policies or relevant laws or regulations. When such conflicts

occur, social workers must make a responsible **effort** to resolve the conflict in a manner that is consistent with the values, principles, and standards expressed in this Code. If a reasonable **resolution** of the conflict does not appear possible, social workers should seek proper consultation before making a decision.

A code of ethics cannot **guarantee** ethical behavior. Moreover, a code of ethics cannot resolve all ethical issues or disputes or capture the richness and complexity involved in **striving** to make responsible choices within a moral community. Rather, a code of ethics sets forth values, ethical principles, and ethical standards to which professionals **aspire** and by which their actions can be judged. Social workers' ethical behavior should result from their personal **commitment** to engage in ethical practice. The *NASW Code of Ethics* reflects the commitment of all social workers **to uphold** the

profession's values and to act ethically. Principles and standards must be applied by individuals of good character who discern moral questions and, in good faith, seek to make reliable ethical judgments.

### ***Vocabulary***

NASW - Национальная ассоциация социальных работников

relevant – соответствующий

regardless – независимо

relevant – соответствующий

to arise – возникать

accountable – ответственный

to adjudicate – судить

implementation – осуществление

responsibilities – обязанности

to outweigh – перевешивать

peer – равный



effort – усилие

resolution – разрешение

guarantee – гарантии

striving – стремление

to aspire – стремиться

commitment – обязательства

to uphold – отстаивать

## Text 8

# Social Workers at High Risk of Drug and Alcohol Abuse

Social workers are trained to help clients with drug and alcohol problems, but that does not mean they are **immune** from the problems themselves.

Twelve percent of social workers in a recent study were at serious risk of alcohol or drug abuse, according to Florida State University Social Work Professor Darcy Siebert, and 25 percent were at moderate risk. Siebert surveyed 751 social workers in North Carolina about alcohol and drug use as well as depression, burnout and other occupational concerns. The study, published in the journal *Health & Social Work*, was funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

"Drug misuse actually is very low in this sample, but these social workers report drinking at higher rates than other helping professionals and the general public," she said. Siebert found that 28 percent of the social workers reported **binge** drinking during the preceding year and 21 percent had used drugs illegally since becoming a social worker. Marijuana

was the drug social workers most commonly reported using.

In comparison, the most recent National Household Survey on Drug Abuse reported that 5.6 percent of the total population were **heavy** drinkers. Surveys of other helping professionals found that 16 percent of nurses reported binge drinking in the past year and 17 percent of physicians thought they were drinking too much.

Of the 12 percent of social workers at serious risk of alcohol or drug abuse, Siebert found that 34 percent said that alcohol use, drug use or a mental health problem caused at least one negative professional **consequence**, and 39 percent agreed that they had worked when too distressed to be effective.

"These data suggest that social workers' alcohol and other drug use can result in **diminished** work performance, which can have negative

**implications** for both the social workers and their clients," Siebert said. "When impairment is accompanied by denial, the consequences could be problematic and **protracted**."

**Denial** is a characteristic defense mechanism among people with alcohol or drug issues, and the social workers in this study were no exception. Only 9 percent of those at serious risk said they had a problem with alcohol or other drugs; 28 percent of them said they either had recovered or were in recovery despite the fact that they had been drinking extensively or using drugs in the **preceding** few weeks.

Those findings were not surprising to Siebert, who said that although social workers are trained to recognize when a client is in denial, it may be hard for them to recognize it in themselves.

"They belong to a profession that **demands** very high personal and professional standards of behavior, and their clients count on them to be models of helpfulness," Siebert said. "Social workers **strive** to meet these standards, which makes it very difficult for them to identify or admit when they have problems with alcohol or drugs. This poses a risk for their clients."

Siebert is **encouraging** the national social work professional organizations to address drug and alcohol **misuse** among social workers and to sponsor comprehensive assistance programs for its members. Professional organizations for physicians, nurses and pharmacists - three care giving professions whose members also seem to be particularly **vulnerable** to alcohol and drug abuse - have established these types of programs and could serve as models for the social work profession. "Our social workers do very difficult

work helping others, but there may be times when they need assistance for themselves," Siebert said. "We don't have enough trained social workers as it is. To lose them to addiction would be a terrible thing because it's treatable."

### ***Vocabulary***

immune – иммунный

binge – выпивка

heavy – тяжелый

consequence – следствие

diminished – уменьшенный

implications – последствия

protracted – затяжной

denial – отказ, отрицание

preceding – предшествующий

demands – требования

to strive – стараться

encouraging – поощрение  
misuse – злоупотребление  
vulnerable – уязвимый

### Text 9

## Professional-client relationships

The major part of social work practice takes the form of face-to-face interviews with individuals, families, or groups of clients at the agency. Compared with other helping professions, however, social work conceives its practice as **involving** more contact with clients in their homes and elsewhere in the community. For example, work “in the streets” with gangs of **delinquents** is carried on by a number of agencies, and extensive work with neighborhood

groups, **settlement** houses, and voluntary associations in the community is characteristic of some community organization practice. In addition, community organization practiced in **welfare** planning or **fund-raising** agencies calls for other relationships. The clientele of social workers thus consists of a wide range of persons, groups, and community organizations. Clients of public agencies are usually from lower socioeconomic levels as compared with the clients of private agencies (Cloward 1963). The latter may charge fees to clients who can **afford** them, but the services of social workers are usually provided without cost to the clients. Among the helping professions, social work also tends to adopt a more **comprehensive** conception of the social context of the client’s problem. **Hence**, professional service often **entails** contacts with family members, employers, associates, and agencies that affect the client. Even so,

critics both outside and within the profession **frequently** urge a wider social perspective, and such criticism is partly responsible for recent programs dealing with problems of **delinquency**, dependency, and illness in terms of the social environment.

The relationship between the professional social worker and his client is **governed** by strong norms of confidentiality and responsibility; it is seen as a privileged relationship **delimited** in function and content, calling for objective, emotionally neutral interest and impartiality in the rendering of service. Such norms are more **explicitly** recognized where professionalization is most advanced, but they are widely asserted in international literature as proper for the professional social worker. Recognition of the professional nature of social workers by their clients is not always equally **evident**. This appears to encourage self-consciousness as well as conscientiousness on the

part of trained social workers, who seem seriously concerned about their professional image. The social worker views his practice as the use of his professional self to establish and maintain a helping relationship with his client, whether individual, family, or community group. The **continuance** of the relationship is often taken as an indication that help is being given, and clients who continue often express satisfaction with the help they receive. However, in the United States less than half of the clients of private family service agencies continue to a second interview or beyond; moreover, clients often **discontinue** contact on their own initiative, with the **extent** of benefit uncertain (Beck 1962).

### *Vocabulary*

involving – включающий в себя

delinquents – правонарушители

settlement – урегулирование  
welfare – благосостояние  
fund-raising – сбор средств  
afford – предоставлять  
comprehensive – всеобъемлющий  
hence – следовательно  
entails – влечет за собой  
frequently – часто  
delinquency – преступность  
governed – регулируется  
delimited – разделенный  
explicitly – явно  
evident – очевидный  
continuance – продолжение  
to discontinue – прекращать  
extent – степень

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