Approaches of Social Work or Social Case Work

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Definition of approaches

- The approaches help us to explain the motivating forces behind human Behaviour and impact of social value, institutions and socio- cultural practices on it.
- Its help us to learn and adopt the actual process to help clients in need of our expertise and help.

Psychoanalytical approach

- Social case work practice is most influence by analytical thinking and concept.
- Freud discovered psychoanalytical approach for realization of the important role played by unconscious process in the determination of behavior.
- Personality and its functioning is understood by psycho-analysts from mainly two types of concepts – topographic and structural.

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- Topographic : any mental events is conscious, pre-conscious and unconscious.
- The unconscious is a dynamic body of wishes which are repressed because of the anxiety these generate.
- Pre-conscious consists of usually those events which can be recollected with a bit of effort.

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- Structural : Personality functioning is understood in terms of id, ego, and super ego.
- Defense mechanism.
- Ego functions object relationship, reality testing,judgements, perception, Motility pattern.

System approach

- System means set of the element, mutual relationship, functional as a whole, purposeful act and same goals.
- For this approach we assess relationship pattern of the member of sub system as well as member of supra-system.
- We also assess the function of the system and communication pattern of the each member of system.
- System approach applied for the assessment of the functional structure of the system.

Psycho-social approach

- Gordon Hamilton published an article on "the underlying Philosophy of social case work" in 1941 in which the word "diagnostic" was used to express psycho-social problem.
- Hamilton follows psychosocial approach in the treatment of social work clients.
- Since then a number of changes have taken place in the concept of psychosocial view.
- The client is seen in the context of his interactions and transactions with the outer world.

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- Case worker starts his work with the knowledge of the needs of the client.
- Assess what kind of help he is needed and find out the perception of the clients about his own problem as well as his desires about the kind of assistance to be provided
- Case worker tries to find out the history of the problem and its impact on the social functioning of the client.

Problem solving approach

- This approach developed by perlman in 1957.
- According to perlman four component of problem solving approach which are:

Person, problem, place and process

 Initial recognition of a difficulties, identification and specification of the problem, analysis of the problem and summary restatement of the problem.



 As the end conceptualized as a person with a problem comes to a place where he and she is offered help though a process.

Behaviour modification approach

- It is based upon the principle of learning and conditioning propounded by Pavlov and Thorndike.
- Skinner helped develop the behavior approach further. It essence behavior modification can be defined as the planed, systematic application of experimentally established principle of learning to the modification of the maladaptive behavior, especially to decreasing undesired behaviors and increasing desired behaviors.

Social Psychological approach

- M. Breekewell and colin Rowet (1982) have presented the this approach. This is emphases perceiving to understanding the individual in his social context.
- Analysis/ description of identity, relationship groups, environment (intra, interpersonal, inter groups and intra group)

Humanistic approach

- Humanism is a philosophy that emphasize the dignity and worth of the people and their capacity for self – realization reason.
- In this approach assess the capacity of the people and respect their dignity.

Holistic approach

- Holistic approach means relationship of the client and its environment.
- Environment means where the client lives we assess what are the relationship between the workplace, neighbors, relative etc.
- Its means client is not able to adjust with the environment or environment is congenial.

THANK YOU