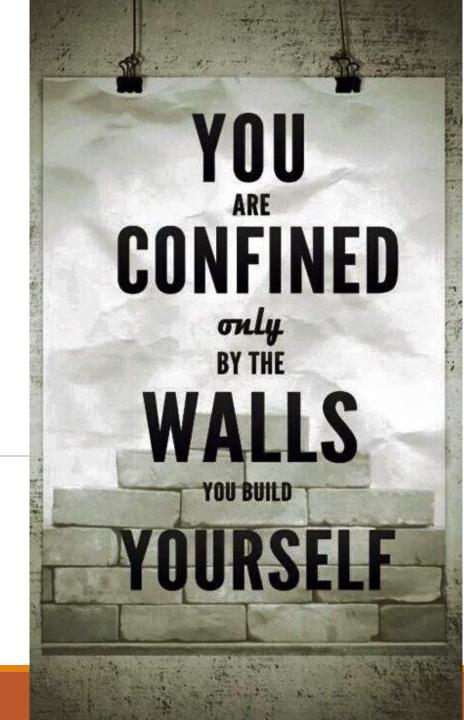
Adult Social Work

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CO-CHAIR NATIONAL PSW NETWORK



Fire Fighters put out fires



But they much prefer to do it this way



Recent history

Adult Social Work in the 1990s social work following NHS & Community Care Act (1990)

Adult social work and partnership with people & their families became neglected. A wide belief that services and not therapeutic interventions were required.

The rise of the 'case managers', - with considerable autonomy and flexibility about the way in which the 'case manager' responded to need... so long as the answer was brokerage.

A rise in managerialism. within social services departments ruled with indicators based on speed, proficiency and process.

Concludes that managers have the power (Lymbery 2001)

The resulted in social workers using a bag of tricks and high walls.

New Act - Old Box of Tricks?

Conveyor belt of care

Process led social work

Defining social work as care brokerage

Performance:

- High care home placements for all client groups
- Over commissioning of domiciliary support
- Reduced employment outcomes and transfer of day care culture from hospitals.
- Poor outcomes evident across all client groups
- Premature death particularly in Learning Disability Services.
- Health inequalities social work not tackling areas of disadvantage
- To deal with demand, we built eligibility walls and actual walls.
- Walls led to social workers sometimes acting like blocks
- Walls sometimes led to big walls and bigger buildings









Care Act (2014) Promoting Well Being (S1.13 Statutory Guidance) – Social Work values in action?

- a) Begin with the assumption the person is best placed to judge their own well being
- b) Uphold the person's wishes, feelings and beliefs
- c) Prevent or delay need for care and support, reduce existing needs
- d) Ensure decisions are made having regard to all the individual's circumstances
- e) Achieve balance between the individual's well being and family members/carers well being
- f) Protect from abuse and neglect
- g) Ensure any restriction on the individuals rights or freedom is minimised

Our Conversation with Staff

Elsie and Andrew

Promoting Well Being for Andrew and Elsie

Elsie Χ Begin with the assumption the person is best placed to judge their own well being Uphold the person's wishes, feelings and Χ beliefs X Prevent or delay need for care and support, reduce existing needs Ensure decisions are made having regard to all Χ the individual's circumstances Achieve balance between the individual's well Χ being and family members/carers well being X **Protect from abuse and neglect** Χ Ensure any restriction on the individuals rights or freedom is minimised

Andrew

- Begin with the assumption the person is best placed to judge their own well being
- V Uphold the person's wishes, feelings and beliefs
- V Prevent or delay need for care and support, reduce existing needs
- **V** Ensure decisions are made having regard to all the individual's circumstances
- V Achieve balance between the individual's well being and family members/carers well being
- **√** Protect from abuse and neglect
- **√** Ensure any restriction on the individuals rights or freedom is minimised

So if adult social work isn't brokerage what is it?

Social work is a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes **social** change and development, **social** cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people. Principles of **social** justice, human rights, collective responsibility and respect for diversities are central to **social work**

Our aims -

To work in partnership with the people we serve (Servants not Masters)

To promote independence, risk enablement and a life to be lived

To promote human rights in everything that we do

What you doing on Friday night?



Big Bed Time Human Rights Audit

30 teams of social workers across 2 Local Authorities

Visited 63 settings managed by 28 providers (90% rated Good by CQC)

313 people with a learning disability living in the settings

4 Visits (Jan, March, June and October)

What did we find....?

People welcomed the visits 69% of people were in bed or ready for bed

75% of people in bed had eaten their evening meal early (5-6pm)

James, Harvey & Mitchell (2017), An Inquiry by Social Workers into Evening Routines in Community Living Settings for Adults with Learning Disabilities, Practice Social Work in Action

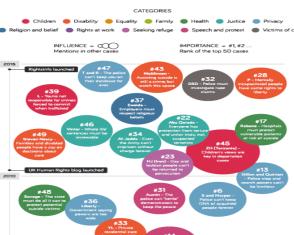
Human Rights Based Social Work







The most important case studies in the history of human rights ranked and classified



"HL" was detained and isolated from his family indefinitely. Under the Mental Health Act 1983 the hospital simply had to informally state that this was in his 'best interests'



