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Indian Social Work Education: A Generalist Core Competence Approach

Jasmine Sarah Alexander¹

Abstract

This article is a critique of the current social work training methodology in India, which is specialisation-intensive and non-reflective of the training needs of practitioners. The paper draws attention to the growth of Social Work in the country in terms of the increasing numbers of schools of social work and Non-Governmental Organisations. These numbers have led to the demand for superior performance and accountability from social workers, which in turn is dependent on the quality of training offered to them. The paper employs an elaborate literature review, adopting a historical and international perspective, to expose the grey areas of the present system of social work education and training in India and bring out the relevance of the Generalist Core Competence approach in the country. It is argued that the Generalist Core Competence approach is capable of augmenting practice and assisting the social work profession to overcome its challenges.

Keywords

social work education, generalist practice, core competence
