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## **Professional Social Work: Revisiting the Past and Envisioning the Future in India**

**Y. Ronald\***

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***Abstract***

Unlike law, medicine and nursing, social work in India neither enjoys professional recognition nor has a professional council to regulate and popularize the profession. The reason for this is explained through the following analysis which reveals the contestations that exists between divergent camps dealing with social work. The author urges the social workers to shed their ideological differences and come to a mutual consensus to promote social work within the human rights and development paradigm. It is acknowledged that both micro and macro social work methods are relevant within the emerging paradigm. A four-point proposal that can build an acceptable consensus between the competing camps is proposed. This article is expected to help these young professionals and educators to identify the pertinent issues that are important for social work in India.

***Keywords***

social welfare, social work education, distance education, India

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