
Editorial

Covid pandemics and earthquakes that crushed us over the year of 2020, together with all other big and small troubles, as the lack of financial support of the journal which is hard to get used to, made the publishing of this issue even harder. Authors, thwarted by different reasons, were late with their articles, reviewers with reviews, printing houses with printing, also the editorial board didn't stay intact. However, despite all, the journal has survived and even though belatedly, an extensive and a very interesting edition is in front of us! Themes in this number are even more diverse encompassing different fields: from international family law, our parliament members' attitude on maternal homes, mothers and children who find shelter in them, their political potential, and the problem complex as a whole; then there is a question of addicts' clubs functioning in times of corona, art therapeutic techniques, this time with the accent on the claywork as the main medium, and in the end, in our region still not enough known and unfairly neglected: street corner work.

In the article that examines international family law authors specifically deal with challenges concerning international adoption and indicate situations of violation of the children rights in this context. These are exceptionally important issues first of all for the children's well-being and, not the least, as an incentive to improve international law. The research of parliamentary members' attitudes also revealed how much up-to-date they are concerning maternal homes in general, their perception of the maternal homes beneficiaries' political power and the state of compensations to hoime care homes from the social welfare (guaranteed minimum fees and household allowance compensation) and society care for the beneficiaries and their political potencial accordingly.

The following theme is particularly interesting because it concerns the addicts' therapeutic groups, increasingly more important to the society as addictions become more infiltrated into the families in territories where there were three times (300%) less addicts then in the continental Croatia fifty years ago (1970 - 1971). The research on phenomena of group work with addicts in as specific period as is the era of pandemics and confinement definitely contributes to the journal's abundance. After this public health and social welfare burning issue, we continue with the art therapy theme, extremely effective with a wide range of clients, and with one of the most useful techniques and materials - clay, as used in therapeutic purposes. It's a discovery to find out the possibilities of diagnostics as well as art therapeutic effects in psychology ("software") of a person and in accomplishing the wanted

organic changes in CNS which this wondrous medium offers when it is professionally used and led in the right therapeutic direction.

The last paper deals with the approach still not adequately recognized in Croatia - prevention of behaviour disorder, addictions, mental functioning of children and youth, so called "street corner work". This novelty in our region brings the possibility for direct action in crisis of, for example, preschool children who are often found in crisis situations in public due to their parents' incompetence. There are many more of such critical situations in many families, hidden within the home walls, away from professionals. So this model of work in public places could be exceptionally useful and, as proven, purposive.

Each edition of our journal is even richer with innovative and interesting topics and as such potentially satisfying to a wide range of scientists and practitioners from a number of different fields that in different ways and in different contexts relate to social work as practice and science. If it weren't so, and we weren't encouraged by support of our International Journal and Editorial Board, contributors and colleagues from all over the world, maybe we would give up; not so much because of the efforts, but because of the practical issues such as printing, which we cannot do our selves. It is possible to publish the electronic version of the Journal, true, but our loyalty to paper and black letters on its whiteness hinders us from doing so. Anyway, Social Themes is stepping forward, a well-trodden path!