

The Effects of the Reorganization of the Social Welfare Service Delivery System on the Role Stress and Job Satisfaction of Social Workers in the Public Sector

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The purpose of this study was to investigate how the role stress and job satisfaction of social workers in the public sector would be affected by the reorganization of the social welfare service delivery system in a way that would reinforce professionalization, integration, and comprehensiveness. For that purpose, a survey was taken among the social workers working for 15 gu-offices and community centers in Busan Metropolitan City. The analysis results indicate that professionalization and integration of the subfactors of the service delivery system had direct impacts on the internal satisfaction of the job and indirect impacts via role conflict. Comprehensiveness turned out to have direct influences on both internal and external satisfaction regardless of role stress. These results imply that organization and human resources management strategies are considerably critical in reducing job-related uncertainty and increasing job satisfaction among social workers in the public sector, and ultimately improving the quality of administration service in addition to being important to run the efficient social welfare service delivery system.

Key words: social welfare service delivery system, social workers in public sector, role stress, job satisfaction

The Effects of Attachment and Self-control on Adolescents' Psychological Maladjustment

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The purpose of this study is to examine about how gender and self-control influence the relationship between attachment and psychological well-being among Korean adolescents. A sample of 2,870 adolescents (in the 3rd grade of middle school, 51% boys), who responded to the wave 5 survey as second panel participants of Korean Youth Panel Study (KYPS) was used to test hypotheses. Results supported the hypothesis that self-control mediates the relations of attachments to psychological well-being. However, gender moderated those relations among variables such that for girls, self-control was a significant mediator, whereas for boys, self-control was not a significant mediator in the relationship between attachments and psychological well-being. In discussion, we suggest that attachment with each of the parents might be necessary to be compared in future studies. Also, we pointed out that depression and anxiety should be used as separated outcomes in the study.

Key words: adolescent's attachment, self-control, moderated mediation

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Strategies to Reduce the Stigma of Hansen's Disease

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The stigma of Hansen's disease is a real phenomenon in many people's lives that affects their physical, psychological, social and economical well-being. The aim of this study was to understand the nature of the stigma of Hansen's disease and identify intervention strategies to reduce the stigma. This study was conducted through a literature review.

According to the results of the study, there is no one easy answer to dispelling the stigma of Hansen's disease; it is something that has to be done in partnership with communities and patients. In short, interventions for reducing the stigma of Hansen's disease may be required at five levels: intrapersonal, interpersonal, community, organizational/institutional and governmental level.

Gradually attitudes towards Hansen's disease are changing, but there is still much to be done if the underlying menace of stigma is to be dealt with. With effort we will one day be able not only to treat the disease, but also to cure the stigma of Hansen's disease, and make that road an easier one.

Key words: Hansen's disease, stigma of Hansen's disease

A Study on the Current State of Long-term Caregivers' Caring Activities and Policy Recommendations for the Improvement of Long-term Caregivers' Working Condition: A Focus on the Discourse of 'Decent Work'

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The purpose of this study is to investigate, by way of applying some objective indicators, whether long-term caregivers' caring activities are regarded as 'decent work' which is socially considered valuable and to identify policy recommendations to improve long-term caregivers' working conditions. According to the results of the study, long-term caregivers' caring activities are found to be low pay/productive jobs. That is, long-term caregivers earn less than half of average wage of working class in Korea and they are classified as contract workers. In addition, they enter the realm of long-term care insurance through work contract and take part in the regular education and training courses to enhance their professional knowledge and self-development. Finally, a number of policy recommendations are made to improve long-term caregivers' working conditions, including wage level, stable employment, and so on.

Key words: long-term caregivers, decent work, indicators, working condition

Effects of Objective and Subjective Characteristics on the Psychological Well-being and Depression for Elderly

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The purpose of this study is to examine whether there are gender differences in objective and subjective characteristics, psychological well-being and depression and what the predictors of psychological well-being and depression for elderly men and elderly women are. The data was collected from the elderly aged over 65 years living in the Seoul and Kyunggi areas and a total of 705 cases were used in this study. The results were as follows. First, there are significant differences in age, illness experience of objective characteristics, and subjective health of subjective characteristics. Elderly men showed higher psychological well-being and lower depression than elderly women. Second, for elderly men objective characteristics had more effect on the psychological well-being and depression than subjective characteristics. On the other hand, for elderly women, subjective characteristics had more effect on psychological well-being and depression than objective characteristics. Third, there were differences in predictors affecting sub-dimensions of psychological well-being by sex. These results provide more specific and effective practical implications to promote a better quality of life for Korean elderly men and women.

Key Words: objective characteristics, subjective characteristics, psychological well-being, depression, gender difference

