

COLLABORATION WITH SERVICE USERS IN SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION AND RESEARCH – Inspiring models throughout Europe

Reflections on participation, ethical issues, the added value and anchoring of good practices.

Convenors: Kristel Driessens & Sidsel Natland

In this SIG we present the new published book at the Series of Social Work Research of Policy Press, a product of this Special Interest Group 'Service Users involvement in Research'. Many members of this group have contributed, in collaboration with colleagues across borders. The book collects many inspiring experiences of collaborative practices with service users within education, research and policy throughout Europe. The contributors describe how the collaborative model works, from which value framework it departs and what the added value is from the perspective of the user, the teacher and the student. In most cases, this approach has proven successful.

In this SIG, an impressive group of authors present their work as a team and we bring overarching reflections on ethical questions, participation and equality in co-working, and on our contribution to structural social work.

Morning programme: Inspiring models in education with their evaluation

1. Gap Mending in Sweden and the UK: a focus on the Mobilisation Course - Cecilia Heule, Arne Kristiaensen, Markus Knutegard, Helen Casey and Peter Beresford
2. Service Users as tandem partners in social work education - Bloemen Hilde, Bridts Caro, Sascha Van Gijzel & Vicky Lyssens-Dannenboom
3. Service Users as supervisors in social work education: mending the gap of power relations Mette Fløystad Kvammen and Tabitha Wright Nielsen
4. Involving students with mental health experience in social work education – Hubert Kaszynski
5. Reflections on inspiring conversations in social work education: the voices of Scottish experts by experience and Italian Students - Susan Levy & Elena Cabiati
6. Service users, students and staff: co-producing creative educational activities on a social work programme in the UK – Kieron Hatton
7. Experiential knowledge as a driver of change – Har Tortike
8. Reflection: Experiences matter equally – Service Users reflect on their experiences. - Caro Bridts – Henrike Kowalk

DISCUSSION

In the afternoon: Practices in co-research and reflection on ethical issues

9. The co-researcher role in the tension between recognition, co-option and tokenism – Ole Petter Askheim
10. Community of development: a model for inclusive learning, research and innovation. Jean-Pierre Wilken, Sascha Van Gijzel & Simona
11. Dialogue, Skills and trust: some lessons learned from co-writing with service users – Sidsel Natland.
12. Reflections:
 - a. Ethical issues in the meaningful involvement of service-users as co-researchers - Hugh Mc Laughlin
 - b. Is this structural social work? Kristel Driessens & Vicky Lyssens-Danneboom

DISCUSSION – PLANS FOR THE FUTURE