

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

FINAL EXAMINATION MAY 2016

COURSE	:	GENERALIST SOCIAL WORK METHODS
COURSE CODE	:	SWK 114
TIME ALLOWED	:	2 HOURS
INSTRUCTIONS	:	SECTION A IS COMPULSORY ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS IN SECTION B
TOTAL POINTS	:	100 MARKS

THIS PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
THE INVIGILATOR

SECTION A (Compulsory)

Choose the best answer.

- i. A female client comes to see a social worker to discuss her relationship issues. According to the psychosocial perspective, the social worker should:
 - a. Ask her to disclose the issues affecting her life
 - b. Begin training behavioral techniques
 - c. Provide a referral to a psychologist for testing
 - d. Refer to a marriage and family therapist

- ii. As a new clinical social worker you find yourself being told by your supervisor you need to be more confrontational. This seems at odds with the social work mission, until you supervisor explains the primary purpose of confrontation is to:
 - a. Demonstrate accurate understanding
 - b. Help a client change her view of a problem
 - c. Make a client aware of inconsistencies
 - d. Help the client identify alternatives to her present behavior

- iii. You have been hired, by a private, non-profit agency, which works with the HIV and AIDS population. The primary function of your unit is to educate sexually active individuals about the disease and to help them understand the importance of testing, life-style changes and treatment if necessary. What is the BEST way to describe your agency's type of prevention?
 - a. Crisis intervention
 - b. Tertiary prevention
 - c. Secondary prevention
 - d. Primary prevention

- iv. You have been hired as a social work case manager for an urban-based agency. Your mission is to; assess the needs of the client, the client's family, and to arrange for, coordinate, monitor, evaluate and advocate for a package of multiple services to meet the specific client's complex needs. Social work case management is distinct from other forms of case management because it addresses all of the following EXCEPT:
- a. The client's Bio-Psycho-Social-Spiritual status and the state of the social system in which the client operates.
 - b. The need for the client to accept the services provided because the social work case manager identifies them as necessary.
 - c. Intervention occurs at both client (micro) and system (macro) levels.
 - d. The need for the social worker to develop and maintain a therapeutic relationship with the client.
- v. You are sitting in a case staffing meeting at your agency while several other social workers are discussing their new cases and receiving feedback and suggestions. Of the four following situations, which one WOULD NOT lend itself to family therapy...?
- a. 17 year old son needs to separate psychologically from his family
 - b. A couple with two children that has decided divorce
 - c. A separated couple with two children, one child in the family has an eating disorder
 - d. An enmeshed family, where improvement in one member is likely to cause distress the other members

- vi. You accept a referral from an agency on 65-year old male client. During the initial interview you learn he has been physically abusive to his wife of 40 years and he appears very depressed. He relates that two of his children will not talk to him and did not call him for his birthday this year. You quickly find you dislike this client intensely and have difficulty feeling any empathy for this client and his situation. That evening after the session you realize he reminds you of your spouse's stepfather who was abusive to your spouse during their childhood. You should...
- Share your feelings with the client
 - Talk to your supervisor about your reactions toward this client
 - Accept your feelings as part of the therapeutic process when working with abusers
 - Continue your sessions with the client and ignore your feelings
- vii. You have been asked to work with a family with a known history of father-daughter incest. As you evaluate this family system, you should expect to see all of the following concerns in relationships EXCEPT...
- Daughter-Father communication will be distorted and symbolic
 - Family structure is very strict, with highly moralistic expectations
 - Reversal between mother-daughter roles and expectations
 - Highly supportive and sharing Daughter-Mother relationship
- viii. You work for a local mental health agency and have been seeing a client for 11 sessions in individual therapy. At the beginning of your next session the client reveals they are sexually attracted to you and have been having sexual fantasies about you for several sessions. They tell you they cannot imagine not coming in to see you. You are caught completely off-guard and do your best to try to process the information with the client. It becomes clear the client is fixated on you. Your BEST response is to...
- Terminate the session and tell the client you need to reschedule with another counselor
 - Continue the session and ignore the revelation.
 - Stop the session and bring your clinical supervisor into the room
 - Accept the revelation and continue processing in therapy

- ix. You have been asked by a colleague to consult with a young couple that has two children, ages 6 and 2. They have recently been told; their 6-year-old child has an Affective Disorder. The diagnosis was made after a school referral to a clinical social worker. The FIRST thing you should do for this couple is...
- a. Complete a thorough Bio-Psycho-Social-Spiritual Assessment of the family
 - b. Empower the parents through education about the disorder
 - c. Refer the family to a support group for families with children of similar diagnoses.
 - d. Help the parents identify different social supports for the child.
- x. A social work colleague is having problems addressing the resistance a client (who was referred by the court system) is giving them during therapy. They ask you for help. Your BEST response is to tell them...
- a. Explore the feelings underlying the resistance
 - b. Confront the client on their resistance
 - c. Point out the client's resistance and work out a behavioral contract to change this resistance
 - d. Help the client re-order the resistance as an opportunity to grow
- xi. You have just begun an initial session with a battered woman who is just starting to tell you about the story and history of abuse. The BEST thing you can do as a therapist is...
- a. During her disclosure ask her leading questions as a method of eliciting as much information as possible and to let her know you are supportive of her situation.
 - b. Simply listen to her story and do not offer advice or suggestions.
 - c. Stop her at different times during, her discussion and provide her with an interpretation of her nonverbal behavior and statements to assist her in becoming more self-aware.
 - d. Provide her with information about other domestic violence victims you have worked with in order to help her understand you are empathetic to her situation.

- xii. It is your fourth session with a client and they arrive 22 minutes late. Upon seating on the couch they say, "I know I am late, I got stuck at work today and could not get away from my desk. This is the third time they are late to a session. You decide it is time to address this situation. Your BEST response is to say:
- a. Can you think of any reason why you want to avoid talking today?
 - b. Maybe we need to explore what it means to you to come here for our sessions.
 - c. I know that your work is important, but we will just have less time together today
 - d. You seem to expect me to be angry with you. Let's talk about how you feel.

Total: /30

SECTION B

Answer any TWO Questions

QUESTION 1

Social workers have a professional responsibility to work with all types of clients, regardless of their personal reactions to the client. Discuss.

Total: /35

QUESTION 2

Define the strengths based practice approach and discuss the major principles of this approach.

Total: /35

QUESTION 3

Discuss the Bio-Psycho-Social-Spiritual Perspective, its use in social work and when it is supposed to be used during the social work helping process.

Total: /35

QUESTION 4

Discuss some of the ethical problems that may arise during the process of a social worker's assessment of a client's thought processes.

Total: /35