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Creating the Field of Social Work in Post-Soviet Lithuania

在立陶宛建立和發展社會工作

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Abstract

This study begins with the social-political context in Lithuania in 1990, amidst social chaos after Soviet rule. At that time, there was a sharp rise in alcoholism and violence in the family. However, health care and other service providers had been relating to their clients in a manner carried over from the older authoritarian structure, primarily by using blaming stances and paternalism. At that time the author, a former surgeon, saw the need to create innovative social service programs and joined the NGO *Caritas* that had valuing the individual as its key principle.

The study outlines the following changes in laws and programs for the poor and needy, including changes to admitting children to psychiatric institutions. Professional social work first began at this time, with the training at Vytautas Magnus University, where the author now lectures. Components of social work training include three distinct characteristics; personal authenticity, the connection between theory and practice through reflection, and a value laden curriculum that promotes freedom, respect and dignity for self and others and social justice.

The author credits specialists, such as Connie Lundgren, who came in 1992 to lead a Virginia Satir family therapy seminar. In formulating her understanding of changes to her country, the author applied Satir's principles of change and chaos at the micro level of the individual and family to the macro and mezzo levels of society. Scientific literature and document analysis were employed in this study.

本文首先分析 1990 年代立陶宛的社會政治環境，當時蘇聯解體，立陶宛陷入種種動盪之中，酗酒上升，家庭暴力上升，有行為問題的兒童被迫入住院舍。醫療和社會服務的提供者多數採用控制的手段來對待病人，常用責備的和家長式的手法。當時，本文作者，一個前外科醫生，感到極需發展創新的社會服務，一個非政府機構明愛 (Caritas) 因着他信奉對個人價值的尊重，吸引作者加入。本文勾畫了在此之後對貧窮人口和有需要人群在法律上和服務上的改變，包括接受兒童入住精神病醫院的情況。維陶塔斯·馬格納斯大學 (Vytautas Magnus University) 開始培訓專業社會工作者，自此專業社工發展起來，本文

作者現在是該大學的老師。該大學的社工課程有三個主要特點：培養個人誠信，透過反思來整合理論與實踐，在課程中充份強調自由、尊重、尊嚴、社會公平等價值觀的重要性。在 1992 年，作者邀請林格 (Conni Lundgren) 博士到該大學開設沙維雅家庭治療工作坊。作者在嘗試形成關於立陶宛社會改變的觀點時，引用了文獻和相關文件，並在微觀 (個人和家庭)、中觀和宏觀層面運用了沙維雅模式中關於改變的原則，也考慮到改變所要經歷的無序狀態。

About the Contributor

Terese Nijole Liobikiene graduated Kaunas Medical Academy and worked as a surgeon until Lithuania became independent in 1990. At this time, she joined the NGO Caritas as a volunteer and created the Family Center system in Lithuania, with innovative social services programs. She was in the first group of professionally educated MSW¹s in 1996 and In 2000, she was asked to be full time lecturer at the Vytautas Magnus University Institute of Social Work. Her doctoral dissertation is: The peculiarities of NGO development in post soviet Lithuania: Catholic Family Centers (a case study). She became a member of AVANTA in 2000.

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