THE MILESTONES OF SOCIAL WORK ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE-OCCUPATION

SOSYAL HİZMET DİSİPLİN VE MESLEĞİNİN DÖNÜM NOKTALARI

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DOI: 10.54467/trjasw.1021791

ABSTRACT

This article mentions people and events that represent important milestones in the historical development of social work. Social work, as a human rights and social justice profession, has built its professional structure and body on the basis of these concepts and facts in historical perspective. In this respect, social work is not only a professional helping occupation, but also a discipline focused on the defense and delivery of the human rights of every citizen.

Indeed, in the historical development process of social work, the focus has always been on the state's ability to be a real social state with understandings such as human rights, civil society, and the rule of law. Public services and social services must thus continue to operate in very broad areas such as education, health and social protection.

In this context, the historical process of social work, the 'Poor Law' of 1834 represents the turning point of modern social welfare systems. The English law was enacted to revise the 'Elizabethan Poor Laws' of 1601. However the new law was punitive and based on the assumption that poor people lacked strong or moral character, it was the arrangement about social problems. In this respect, evaluating the milestones and important events of social work in the world will help to develop and advance Turkish social work as well.

Keywords: Social Work, Milestones of Social Work, History of Social Work Profession.

ÖZET

Bu makalede, sosyal hizmetin tarihsel gelişimindeki önemli dönüm noktası olan kişilere ve olaylara değinilmiştir. Bir insan hakları ve sosyal adalet mesleği olarak sosyal hizmet, tarihsel perspektifte mesleki yapısını ve gövdesini de bu kavramlar ve olguların zemini üzerinde inşa etmiştir. Bu açıdan sosyal hizmet sadece bir profesyonel yardım mesleği değil, aynı zamanda her yurttaşın insan haklarının savunulmasını ve teslim edilmesini odak alan bir disiplindir.

Gerçekten de sosyal hizmetin tarihsel gelişim sürecinde her zaman; insan hakları, sivil toplum, hukuk devleti gibi ilkelerle devletin gerçek bir sosyal devlet olabilmesi odak alınmıştır. Bu nedenle kamu hizmetleri ve sosyal hizmetler, eğitim, sağlık ve sosyal koruma gibi çok geniş alanlarda etkinliklerini sürdürmektedir. 1601 Elizabeth dönemi yoksul yasalarının yeniden düzenlenmesini içeren 1834 tarihli yasa, her ne kadar yoksullara karşı olumsuz yargılar ve cezalandırıcı bir bakış açısı içerse de modern refah sisteminin en önemli kilometre taşını oluşturmuştur. Bu açıdan, sosyal çalışmanın tarihteki dönüm noktaları ve önemli olayları üzerine yapılacak değerlendirmenin, Türk sosyal hizmetinin de geliştirmesi ve ilerletilmesine katkı sağlayacağı düşünülmektedir.

Anahtar kelimeler; Sosyal Hizmet/Sosyal çalışma, Sosyal Çalışmanın Kilometre Taşları, Sosyal Çalışma Disiplinini Tarihçesi.

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INTRODUCTION

This article aims to clearly present the milestones of the discipline and profession of social work, in the world from a philosophical and historical point of view.

Through a long historical process, social work has become a professional activity that helps individuals, groups, or communities improve or restore their capacity for social functioning and creates social conditions conducive to that goal (NASW, 1999).

There is no doubt that the technological developments in our time have a decisive impact on the population and that civilization has reached its peak in terms of science and technology.

The rapid and striking development in the natural sciences did not take place in the social sciences, so the development and progress in the social sciences remained small.

It can also be said that there has been considerable progress in scientific fields such as the humanities, social sciences, medicine and education; however, progress and devolepment in the social sphere has never kept pace with technological progress.

Traditional problems such as poverty, ignorance, disease, unemployment, population growth and even hunger remain. The deadlock of these social problems shows that insufficient laws at the country.

In addition to these problems, other problems are gaining importance and threatening people, such as developmental social isolation, confusion of values, youth crisis, alcoholism and drug addiction, family disintegration, the problem of women's rights, population aging, displacement, housing shortage, automation and nuclear armament (Kut, 1988).

After the Industrial Revolution, which began around 1800, in Great Britain the great migration from the countryside to the cities, the urbanization, production, consumption and the transformation of lifestyles led to various and profound social problems. Along with industrialization, which dissolved the old social structure and traditional relationships, new problems arose with a new social stratification, which brought the need to create mechanisms of social cooperation to replace traditional cooperation (Yolcuoğlu, 2020).

In the historical development of the welfare system, social insurance began with voluntary applications and then became formal in all European countries and the United States in the mid-20th century. However, it took more than half a century for social policy with its limited meaning and practice to develop into a modern welfare state. The struggles of the working class, which gained power over capital, e.g. the great general strike in England in 1926, accelerated the socialization of the state as an important development that changed social power relations (Yolcuoğlu, 2017).

The most important aspect of the twentieth century is the increasing importance and development of the following concepts: Human Rights, Adequate Life, Freedom and Social Justice. In order to create welfare societies in which the above concepts are put into practice, battles were fought at the national and international levels and the concept of the "social welfare state" (Özdemir, 2009) was accepted as the state model of the modern world.

The complex events in contemporary social life and the social problems arising from the individual and social change processes have increased the need for scientific knowledge. Similar to other social sciences, social work is an applied field of study and a discipline that aims to solve emerging social problems using unique scientific techniques and methods. Keeping in mind the idea of social justice and people's welfare, social work tries to ensure that socio-economic conditions are orderly, that all individuals in a given society can live a peaceful life, and that people's basic needs are met. While seeking to solve the problems of individuals and society at the micro and macro levels, social work aims to enrich social policy and achieve the goals

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of human rights and the idea of social justice. Social work usually takes place in an "institution", generally in state institutions (Yolcuoğlu, 2020).

In the history of social work, the principles of human rights and social justice have become the fundamentions of social work. These pioneers have most promoted the role of "mediator, counselor, advocate and teacher" in social work. The role of the mediator is one of the most important functions of the social worker in which clients, individuals, or communities are assisted in identifying, locating, and linking available government resources to advance their mutual interests (Kirst-Ashman, K. ve Hull, G.H., 1999).

As we know, advocacy is the act of directly representing or defending others. In social work the social worker advocates for the rights of individuals or communities through direct intervention or empowerment. The advocate's role is to advocate for vulnerable populations and for all clients, to bring about changes in conditions that contribute to clients' problems, and to secure and protect clients' existing rights or entitlements. The social worker's role as advocate, counselor, teacher, and facilitator is a fundamental commitment of the profession and its members (Kirst-Ashman, K. ve Hull, G.H., 1999).

A Historical Perspective of Social Work Discipline

The understanding of social work began with philanthropic ideas and thoughts. Philanthropy is a term derived from the Greek meaning "love of humanity" and refers to practical efforts to promote public welfare through the donation of funds or resources to charitable causes. Philanthropic activities, especially in secular society, tended to be spontaneous and haphazard until the late 19th century. The field of social work emerged in part out of a desire to make these activities more systematic and effective in terms of raising and distributing funds. Today, philanthropy consists of a sophisticated and extremely complex number of organizations and groups.

In the historical process of social work, the 'Poor Law' of 1834 represents the turning point of modern social welfare systems. The English law was enacted to revise the 'Elizabethan Poor Laws' of 1601. The new law was punitive and based on the assumption that poor people lacked strong or moral character. The laws discontinued public assistance to all able-bodied citizens, except those housed in public institutions, and introduced the principle of lesser eligibility, so that no beneficiary would receive as much as the lowest wage earner. The program was accepted by local governments and administered at the national level. The principles of the Poor Law of 1834 had a significant impact on public welfare policy in the United States for more than a century (Barker, 2003).

Following this development, Toynbee Hall was the British settlement house founded by Samuel A. Barnett in 1884 and became the prototype for the 400 American settlement houses that sprang up over the next 20 years. Located in a poor neighborhood of London, it served as a kind of "missionary outpost," bringing the ideas, values, and social skills of wealthy people to the less fortunate. Hull-House was a pioneer settlement house founded by Jane Addams in Chicago in 1889. It served as a community center for poor and disadvantaged people in the region and was the framework for initiating various socialization and social reform activities. In Great Britain, social security legislation passed by the government in 1911 provided for old-age, unemployment, and sickness insurance, and in 1925 for survivors' insurance for most workers (Encyclopedia of Social Work, 1995).

International Assoociation of Schools of Social Work (IASSW), an organization of social work schools and educators founded in 1928 to improve training and ennsure consistent standards for the higher levels of social work education (Barker, 2003).

Social Security Act, the federal legislation enacted in 1935, with several subsequent amendments, designed to meet

many of the economic needs of older people, dependent survivors, people with disabilities, and needy families (Barker, 2003).

International Fedaration of Social Worker (IFSW) the association of social workers (who belong through theirrespective national social work organizations) established to promote the social work profession, establish standards, provide a forum for exchanging ideas among social workers around the world, and present social workers' views to governments and nongovernment organizations (NGOs). IFSW developed the International Ethical Standards for Social Workers with other associations. The present organization was formed in 1956 and includes professionals from social work associations in over 80 nations (Barker, 2003).

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act is a federal law enacted in 1996 to reform the U.S. welfare system. Programs such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Emergency Assistance, and the Job Opportunities and Basic Skills (JOBS) training program were eliminated and other welfare programs were cut. The replacement Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program imposed restrictions on recipients. Subsequent reauthorization of the law increased the required hours of work from 30 to 40 hours per week and eliminated the distinction between two-parent families and single-parent families. Some new funds were authorized to promote and test innovative approaches to family education and healthy marriage activities.

All these developments in the welfare state, the model of the welfare state, which is the most valid and accepted system of our time, creates a necessary balance of power between the two basic social parties in the framework of socialization and politicization (Yolcuoğlu, 2020).

The Mailstones of The Social Work Profession

In the historical development of social work, many of the pioneers mentioned above have devoted their entire lives and hard work to strengthening the discipline and profession of social work (Encyclopedia of Social Work, 1995; Barker, 2003).

The Fabian Society, a group of British intellectuals founded in 1884 to advance progressive ideas, was at the forefront of social evolution. The Fabians, whose members included the writer Bernard Shaw, H. G. Wells, and Sydney Webb, influenced British opinion on evolutionary socialism and helped found the Labour Party.

Robert Owen (1771-1851) was a pioneer of social reform, a Welsh philanthropist and social advocate who worked to abolish exploitative working conditions for beggars and indentured servants, improved conditions for child labor and child policy, and helped establish national old-age and health insurance programs.

Samuel A. Barnett (1844-1913) was a pioneer and founder of the original settlement houses in the development of the original Charity Organization Societies (COS) in England. He used his church for a type of discussion group that became the model for many methods of social group work. A community organizer and activist for better housing and treatment of mental illness, he founded Toynbee Hall, the first settlement house, in 1884, naming it after one of his recently deceased volunteers. He later came to the United States and worked with Jane Addams to found Hull House in Chicago.

Octavia Hill (1838-1912), also worked with S. Barnett in London, advocating for better housing conditions for people (Barker, 2003).

Porter Lee (1879-1939) was a social work educator and leader in developing curricula for schools of social work. Lee helped organize and promote the integration of multidisciplinary knowledge into social work. He wrote many early social work texts, including Mental Hygiene and Social Work and SW: Cause and Function.

Julia C. Lathrop (1859-1931) advocated for the welfare of children and was a leader in establishing a juvenile justice system in the United States. Lathrop was the first director of the Children's Bureau and later became involved in the women's suffrage movement (Barker, 2003).

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Jane Addams (1860-1935), one of the founders of social work, was a community organizer and leader of the settlement house movement. She founded the Hull House in Chicago, which became a prototype for other such institutions. She advocated for honest government and was the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931.

Mary E. Richmond (1861-1928) is considered one of the most important founders of professional social work. She led the Charity Organization Societies (COS) movement to develop schools for training social workers. She taught volunteers and paid staff in a variety of settings and developed some of the first social work teaching programs. Her books were among the first to be used in social work education. These included Social Diagnosis (1917) and What is Social Case Work? (1922).

Robert W. Hunter (1874-1942) Social worker, Hull House resident, and influential author of the classic Poverty (1904), the first statistical survey of the poor in America. Later disillusioned with his socialist philosophy, he became a proponent of right-wing politics and author of Revolution (1940), which denounced socialist and Marxist ideology.

Edith Abbott (1876-1957), a pioneer in social work education who was dean of the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago from 1924 to 1942, a founder of the Social Service Review, and she also helped draft the original Social Security Act of 1935.

Jeannette Rankin (1880-1973): the first woman elected to the U.S. Congress (she served two terms in the House of Representatives: 1917-18 and 1941-42). Before her political career, she trained and worked as a social worker, and also led successful campaigns in the women's suffrage movement and legislation to protect children (Barker, 2003).

Alice Salomon (1872-1948) was one of the main founders of professional social work in Germany and the founder of German social work education.

Kenneth Pray (1882-1948), social work scholar who developed community organization as a social work method.

Frances Perkins (1882-1965), the first woman in the U.S. Cabinet, was President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Secretary of Labor during the Great Depression. Roosevelt. She used her experience in social work to promote and help shape the Social Security system, child labor legislation, and compensation for the unemployed.

Abraham Epstein (1892-1942), one of the leaders of the movement for Social Security legislation and one of the planners of the Social Security Act of 1935. He also taught on retirement, aging, and Social Security financing issues. Paul U. Kellogg (1879-1958), founder and from 1909 to 1952 editor of The Survey, the unofficial and highly influential journal of social work. Mary C. Jarrett (1876-1961), developer of psychiatric social work (Barker, 2003).

Another pioneer is Grace Abbott (1878-1939), a champion of child labor laws and longtime director of the Chilren's Bureau, who organized one of the first White House conferences and was an advisor to President Woodrow Wilson.

Bertha Capen Reynolds (1885-1978): social educator, author, and advocate for workers' rights.

Frank J. Bruno (1874-1955): one of the first developers of a theoretical basis for the new field of social work, he was a longtime faculty member at St. Louis University. He also wrote some of the most influential early social work texts, including The Theory of Social Work (1936) (Barker, 2003).

Virginia Robinson (1883-1977), a social work theorist and educator who wrote influential textbooks on casework, supervision, and education.

Annette M. Garrett (1898-1957) systematized the concepts of social work practice and developed fieldwork as an educational experience. She authored the influential 1942 book Interviewing: The Principle and the Method.

W.E.B. DuBois (1868-1963), African American scholar, sociologist, and activist who led the early civil rights movement, helped establish social work institutions and schools of social work at several universities.

Gordon Hamilton (1892-1967), social work educator and writer who advanced the social work profession and

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authored Practice of Social Casework. As an educator, she contributed to the development of doctoral education in 1940 (Encyclopedia of Social Work, 1995).

Elizabeth R. Haynes (1883-1953) was a pioneer social worker, politician, and activist for the rights of women and people of color. She began her career in leadership positions with the Young Women's Christian Assocation (YWCA), the U.S. Women's Bureau, and the U.S. Employment Service, where she was a particular advocate for African American domestic workers.

Eduard C. Lindeman (1885-1953), social work theorist and lecturer at the New York School of Social Work from 1924 to 1950. Lindeman developed many of the conceptual foundations of community organization and social group work. He advocated maintaining social context in social work when it focused on intrapsychic concerns and strove to develop an integrated, holistic view of social work. He has also been called the "father of adult education" in the United States.

Bradley Buell (1893-1976), developer of community organization and social planning in social work. Grace L. Coyle (1892-1962), developer of the scientific approach to social group work and author of numerous books on the subject.

Ruth Smalley (1903-1979): philosopher, social worker, and educator who wrote extensively on social work methods. As dean of the Pennsylvania School of Social Work, she was a leader in developing an alternative to Freudian casework theory with a time-limited, task-oriented, and functional approach to problem solving.

Florence Hollis (1907-1987) was a social worker, educator, and theorist. She developed the typology of casework treatment and wrote Women in Marital Conflict and the classic Casework: A Psyhosocial Therapy.

Gordon Hearn (1914-1979), an educator and social work theorist, developed theories of social group work and general systems theory in social work. He wrote the book Theory Building in Social Work in 1958.

William Schwartz (1916-1982): social work educator who developed many of the theories and principles of social group work. Nathan Cohen (1910-2001): first president and co-founder of NASW; he strengthened the role of professorial analysis in doctoral social work education and wrote several classic texts on social work history.

Virginia Satir (1916-1988) was a major theorist and educator in the field of family therapy who developed many of the innovative communication concepts in the field. She wrote the highly influential books Containt Family Therapy (1964) and Peoplemaking (1972) and led numerous workshops teaching social workers and others the theory and practice of family therapy.

Carol H. Meyer (1924-1996) Social work educator, theorist, and author who developed concepts for social work practice from an ecosystem perspective and developed theories and educational programs for in-service education, assessment, feminist social work, and community organizing.

Harry Specht (1929-1995): social educator who first encountered social workers in his impoverished childhood and went on to become a group worker and researcher in settlement houses. A longtime dean of the University of California-Berkeley, he co-authored influential books on social welfare policy, community organizing, and the profession's mission.

Richard Cloward (1926-2000), social work scholar, theorist, author of several influential books, and activist who was at the forefront of national movements against poverty and for welfare rights. He was founder of HumanServe, an organization that helped poor people gain access to voter registration.

Walter W. Hudson (1934-1999), social work researcher who advocated increased use of empirically based measurement methods by social workers in assessment, treatment, and social interventions. He wrote influential textbooks on research methodology and statistical analysis and developed measurement scales for more objective assessment of interpersonal and social problems and social work interventions.

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David Liederman (1936-2001) advocated for neglected, abused, and at-risk children. He was a longtime director of the Children Welfare League of America and later chairman of the Accredition Board for Child Service Agencies.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

"Social work as a science" is an "academic discipline" that produces scientific knowledge about the dynamics and principles of change and development in relation to people and society, as well as the improvement of human social services and related approaches, methods and applications to the subject with developmental thoughts and knowledge.

The following concepts represent the qualifications of the field of social work: Laws of change and development dynamics of the individual and society; Developmental thinking and knowledge; Approaches, methods, and practices to improve social effectiveness of people.

In democratic societies, "social work" is a profession that empowers people and society to develop and improve living conditions, fundamental rights and freedoms, and social and financial rights in accordance with political and participation rights. The profession of social work fulfills the above tasks with scientific approaches, methods and techniques and mobilizes mechanisms of social interaction (Kirst-Ashman, K. ve Hull, G.H., 1999).

Social work is an applied science that helps people achieve effective psychosocial functioning and bring about social change to improve the well-being of all people (Cılga, 2004).

With the power of all these pioneers of social work, in order for individuals to reach the strong structures mentioned above in the "public sphere" (Habermas, 2000) in our country, the state should redistribute its income; it should provide a minimum of opportunities for weak, abused, vulnerable, fragile, orphaned and needy people.

In this way, the citizenship of the country becomes much more human for the people (Marshall, 1963). This situation requires that the state be a pure rule of law with social justice (Şener, 1998) and that the status quo be replaced with social services for the benefit of the needy and vulnerable groups.

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