Clinical and Applied Sociology

Kay Lyn Carlson

Omega Graduate School

August 17, 2024

Professor

Dr. Joshua D. Reichard

Assignment #1 – Core Essential Elements

1. Select One (1) Core Essential Element from the Syllabus Outline:

a. Create a 350-word original discussion paper (with cited sources) during the week

of the residency. Be prepared to discuss and engage with other students during

the live sessions. Post this document in DIAL.

b. Professor will check for quality of content and word-count requirements. Grade

assigned will be Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

**Core Essential Element – Clinical Sociology**

“Clinical Sociology assesses situations and avoids, reduces, or eliminates problems through a combination of analysis and intervention” (Fritz, p. 4). Clinical Sociologists work in diverse settings with the goal of improving the overall well-being of individuals and groups. Clinical Sociologists are creative and apply their knowledge to create interventions, working alongside others (interdisciplinary) to broaden their understanding and work towards designing solutions to improve things and improve social functioning. An interdisciplinary approach offers a more comprehensive and well-rounded framework to address complex issues (Profession EXP, 2021).

Therefore, clinical sociology's work provides the opportunity to bring about positive, constructive social change for individuals and groups whose voices are often drowned out or ignored by powerholders controlling a particular narrative and worldview. Specifically, with abortion, clinical sociologists can work toward understanding abortion trauma utilizing an interdisciplinary approach versus deconstructing abortion into smaller parts that lead many to suffer a lifetime of pain and regret. For example, consider one woman’s example of how abortion harmed her.

They all tell you ‘it’s your choice’ in the moment, but you don’t feel that it is. Being unable to afford it, unable to tell your loved ones, not having the help or feeling unable to support a child. When your partner doesn’t want it like you do. All these things push you, blind you to a decision that you don’t realize will destroy you” p. 1489.

Yet, as a society, we are led to believe that abortion is healthcare. Indeed, clinical sociologists can work toward the goal of understanding abortion within a much broader framework that addresses the complex issues surrounding abortion.

WORKS CITED

Fritz, J. M. (Ed.). (2021). International clinical sociology (2nd ed. 2021 edition). Springer.

[Amazon: Look Inside]

Professor EXP. (2021, January 18). What is clinical Sociology [Video file]. YouTube.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-EYkmLlSe6o

Rafferty, K. A., & Longbons, T. (2020). #AbortionChangesYou: A Case Study to Understand the Communicative Tensions in Women's Medication Abortion Narratives. Health Communication, 1–10. https://doi.org/10.1080/10410236.2020.1770507