The History of Social Welfare and Social Work

Chapter 6

Who is Responsible The Poor?

Who? (groups or categories)
Why? for each group/category.
Pro's/Con's for each.

Early Beginnings

Feudal system

Roots in England

Church

Government
Elizabethan Poor Laws

1601
Three classes of the poor:
1. The able-bodied poor.
2. The impotent or "worthy" poor.
3. Children.

Elizabethan Poor Laws

5 aspects that contributed to U.S. system of social welfare policy:
1. Government responsibility for those in need;
2. Government authority to force people to work;
3. Government enforcement of family responsibility;
4. Responsibility to be exercised at the local level; and
5. Residence requirements.

Poor Law Reform Act of 1834

History of Social Work and Social Welfare in the United States

History in the U.S.

Government (public sector)
Voluntary (private sector)

Immigration
Beginning of Child Welfare Policy

- New York’s Children’s Aid Society 1854

Social Settlement House

1886 – first social settlement house: New York City.
1889 – Hull House – Jane Addams
3 characteristics:
1. Clients are able, normal individuals;
2. Environmental factors: immigrants, education;
3. Neighborhood services and community development.

Jane Addams - Hull House

Charity Organization Society

1877
4 principles:
1. Detailed investigation of applicants;
2. Central system of registration to avoid duplication;
3. Cooperation between the various relief agencies; and
4. “Friendly visitors” – direct service to individuals and families.

Comparison

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<tr>
<th>Charity Organization Society</th>
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<td>Poverty caused by bad moral character.</td>
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<td>Promoted “scientific philanthropy.”</td>
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<td>Beginnings of social work with individuals.</td>
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<td>Poor people are able, normal individuals.</td>
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<td>Emphasized work in neighborhoods.</td>
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<td>Beginnings of social work with communities and advocacy.</td>
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American History of Minorities

- African Americans and freed slaves. (Freedmen Bureau) 1865-1872
- American Indians (Dawes Act) 1887
- Indian Reorganization Act-1934
- Asian Immigration
  - Oriental Exclusion Act 1880
- Chicano and Puerto Rican immigration

HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS

Progressive Period 1900-1930

- NAACP, 1909
- National Urban League, 1911
- Children’s Bureau, 1912
- Assistance for single mothers 40 states 1911-1920
- 19th Amendment, 1920

The Depression 1930’s
Franklin D. Roosevelt’s “New Deal” 1935

Social Security Act - 1935
- Social Insurance (Social Security).
  - Based on ones right! old age, disability, unemployment, death
- Public Assistance (ADC).
  - Based on ones need! dependent children, poor elderly, blind
ADC----AFDC----TANF

**War on Poverty -1960s**
- Economic Opportunities Act of 1964 - the “War on Poverty.”
- Medicare and Medicaid.
- Food Stamps. 1964.
- Civil Rights Act of 1964.

**Civil Rights 1960s**
- Wounded Knee

**Conservative Movements**
- SSI Supplemental Security Income-1972
- Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act 1974
- Title XX 1975
- Indian Child Welfare Act 1978
- Adoption assistance and Child Welfare Act 1980

**1980s**
- Cut taxes and government spending, especially welfare spending.
- “Trickle down” effect

**1990s**
- Welfare reform – “End welfare as we know it.”
- 3 keystones of Clinton’s agenda:
  1) employment readiness,
  2) parental responsibility, and
  3) state discretion.
- Tried to strengthen the healthcare system.
  * Republican’s Contract with America *
Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act

AFDC------TANF
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Social Work Developments

1900s: Social welfare became more professionalized.
1898: First social work training school.
1921: American Association of Social Workers.
1952: CSWE.
1974: BSW