

Luis Diaz

SWK568: Clinical Social Work Practice III With Groups

Professor: Carlton Jean

Journal Assignment #4

Date Due: February 28th, 2020

Title: Group Discussion (Leading Group)

For purposes of this week's assignment, I will be discussing what the process was like in leading our group's discussion during the role-play activity of "Jane". To begin I will point out that the group conducted themselves in a very practical manner. There were instances when we each felt that the task wasn't being taken as seriously. This was due to the group's pre-existing relationship. Deliberating over who would lead the group presented some resistance from everyone. I quickly learned that there is a fear of leading groups, even for social workers. The objective of the assignment was to facilitate a support system and safe space for 'Jane' and the group to discuss the family conflict issues that they were experiencing.

During the role-play, we determined as a group that we would on the underlying cause of her (Jane) avoidance to discuss family conflicts. We achieved this by having one of the participants act as the aunt of Jane. As the role-play began I remember leading the group with instructions on respecting each other's voice and being open-minded about each individual's concerns. This allowed for the group to respond in a more receptive manner. My idea to have the group participate in a reflection activity in order to transition into the problem (Jane's avoidance). With her (Jane) aunt present, the issue of addressing the family conflict or concern was unavoidable. Jane's aunt was able to share her concerns and within the assignment, we did a small role reversal play of the aunt and Jane. Through this approach, Jane and the aunt were able to highlight their conflicting areas, and gain the support needed from the rest of the group members. I felt somewhat out of place as they were in their moment of exchange and wonder if the assignment was a real-life activity would such role reversal be appropriate for both an individual's well-being.