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Reflection # 3

1-Identify three personal values that you believe are important prerequisites for social work practice? Describe each value and explain why you selected it as one of the most important.

The values that I think are important for the social work practice are compassion, optimism, efficiency. Optimism is important because you have to be hopeful for the future and always looking at the bright side of negative situations.

Compassion is one of the most important values needed in a social worker. Social workers need to be able to sympathize with their clients' situation and story. Being compassionate is extremely important because it lets the client know that we care about their feelings. Efficiency is a key value for the social work profession because we must be capable of completing our job. We need to

2-Discuss the similarities and differences between practice wisdom, theoretical knowledge, and tested knowledge.

Practice wisdom suggests that, in order to be effective, the helping process must concentrate available time and energy on just one, two, or possibly three problems at a time (p.279).

Theoretical knowledge is knowledge that is learned by theory and reasoning.

Tested knowledge is knowledge that has been scientifically tested through research.

I think that the similarities are that they are all influenced by theory and research. Differences would be that theoretical knowledge and tested knowledge both use theory and reasoning.

Practice wisdom is only influenced by theory and reasoning.

3. The text indicates that a social worker must possess knowledge regarding social phenomena, social conditions and social problems, and the social work profession. Select one of these knowledge areas and give examples of the knowledge that is required.

Social problems social workers are supposed to understand how human problems (e.g., family violence, adolescent crime, school dropout, poverty, substance abuse) cluster together and overlap (p.37). I think understanding the different problems that clients are dealing with or maybe will deal with is important for both the social worker and the client.

4. Describe the difference between “theories of social work” and “theories for social work.” Give examples of each and discuss why a social work student should be familiar with both.

The theories of social work focus on the profession and explain its purpose, domain, and character within a society. The theories for social work focus on clients and helping activities (p. 40). It's extremely important to know the difference between theories of social work and the theory for social work. I personally didn't know the difference until I read the chapter. One theory focuses on explaining the profession of social work and the other focuses on the client and activities that can help the client.