

Margaret Spellen

SWK 554

02/01/2023

Reflection Paper

It is important for social work practitioners to get a holistic understanding of their client; as this relates to individuals, families, groups, communities, and organizations, for assessing and understanding human behavior and the social environment. An integrative multidimensional framework is appropriate for a holistic approach for social work biopsychosocial assessments because “social work practitioners must be clear about how they will systematically assess, measure, or describe the characteristics of their clients and their life troubles contexts.” (Ashford, J. B., LeCroy, C. W., Williams, L. R. 2018). The importance of the multidimensional framework for integrating the knowledge and the theories of the biophysical, psychological, and social dimensions on human behavior.

This framework also demonstrates the relationship between life-span concern and the understanding of person-in-environment transactions. The four assumptions of biopsychosocial framework are:

- “There are three basic dimensions for assessing human behavior and the social environment: biophysical, psychological, and social.
- These three dimensions are conceptualized as a system of biopsychosocial functioning.
- This system involves multiple systems that are organized in a hierarchy of levels from the smallest (cellular) to the largest (social).

- o This ascending hierarchy of systems is in a constant state of interaction with the other living systems and with other nonliving components of the system's physical environment." (Ashford, pg. 49).

It is essential that social workers consider the biological, the psychological and the social dimensions. A multidimensional framework is needed for social workers to be able to understand human development and behaviors.

*Ashford, Jose B., LeCroy, Craig Winston, Williams, Lela Rankin. **Human Behavior in the Social Environment: A Multidimensional Perspective**, 6th, ed. 2018.