

Vanessa Walters

02/02/2023

Paper 2.

1. Select a case from your field experience (any system size). The case must reflect clients or client issues involving an at-risk or oppressed population. I have done an assignment on at risk populations for Introduction to social work and social welfare class. My focus was that Individuals that are infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are very at high risk , HIV is a virus that any individual can contract, specifically anyone that practices unprotected sex with an infected partner can be exposed to HIV infection. There is no cure for it however, with proper medication people can live longer with the virus. Without proper medical attention untreated HIV will turn into aids. I have chosen that case because I believe lack of education about this term has pushed society to degrade individuals that suffer this sickness.

1.Demonstrate the capacity to apply and communicate the importance of diversity and difference in shaping life experiences. I believe this term is connected to competencies 2 because lack of education about how the virus is transmitted has led to a lot of discrimination. From my own experience, I had one patient that I discovered that was HIV positive. I did not want to finish my shift with him, or even clean him because I thought I would be infected. Ignorance can make us ignore other true values. After completing the assignment I understood how important it is for social workers to be well equipped and be the voice of the oppressed ones. As a continuous learner I learned that being constantly rejected by the ones we love, society can change how we see the world and how we try to fit into it. I also understand that the at risk population also has alot of limitations because of how they are being categorized.

3. Demonstrate the capacity to engage clients as experts of their own experiences. This client had opened the door for me to be open minded and always willing to let people present themselves for whom they see fit. I might not have treated the first patient with professionalism but it has empowered me for the next patient. I have work with other client that I found out they were HIV positive but at that time I was not surprise, did not acting indifferent, I was prepare and well educate that they were just like any other patient and deserve to be treated with respect, kindness, and professionalism and did not deserve any missjudge, discrimination, and needed to be protected and feel safe within their environment. Sickness does not describe the values of an individual nor does it portrait the identity of that person. Now I feel this will contribute to my perspective on serving my future clients with at risk populations in a better way. I will continue to research so I can be prepared on other social matters.

4. Demonstrate how personal biases and values were identified and managed through self-awareness and self-regulation. I was biased by not wanting to help the client fulfill his daily routine just because I was afraid of being infected as he could not do anything by himself including taking a bath. My personal bias has led me to be unprofessional, judgmental, and inconsiderable. Now being self aware let me realize that if I was in the patient's shoes I would not like that type of treatment and would probably cause me to keep to myself and maybe not look for help or treatment as anywhere I go this is the treatment that will be given.