

Dissertation Supervisor's Opinion

Student : Doc. Dr. László Horváth, MA.

Dissertation name: Social assistance to children with health handicaps and their families

Supervisor: *doc. PhDr. Adéla Mojžíšová, Ph.D.*

Doc. Dr. L. Horváth, MA, the author of the Dissertation Thesis, deals with the topic of health and social care for handicapped children living in the family and for children living in institutional care. The author submits his Dissertation in English. The volume of the Dissertation is 129 pages, including references, key words and list of abbreviations. The list of references includes 132 sources of national and international literature in total. The questionnaire that was used during the empirical part of the Dissertation constitutes annex to the Dissertation.

The goal of the Dissertation was to ascertain the quality of care for handicapped children in the family and in institutional care, to seek new methods of partner approach to the families of such children from the perspective of social worker and, on the base of the results, to suggest educational programs for experts engaged in care for handicapped children.

The theoretical part of the Dissertation focuses on analysis of new paradigms related to provision of care to handicapped children. Particularly the principle of standardization and the principle of integration in the context of international codes. The author analyzed the International classification of functionality including international documents and legislation of Hungary related to the issue of care for and assistance to families with handicapped children. Further, the author focused on changes

of structure and function of the family as support system for handicapped children.

The empirical part has 9 hypotheses set; the author verified them with the help of questionnaire investigation consisting of six areas of questions. Parents of handicapped children were the respondents. The research was implemented in 339 respondents. The respondents came from 36 towns and villages of the Republic of Hungary. The research was implemented in 2009.

The results of the questionnaire investigation were processed with the help of the SPSS statistical program and graphically elaborated with the help of diagrams and charts. Qualitative analysis followed. On the base of the research implemented, the author of the Dissertation discusses with professional literature and with the paradigm of standardization and integration.

The research performed in families showed obviously that the principle of standardization, i.e. the lowest possible qualitative difference in care for handicapped children in family and in institutional facility, has not been quite successful so far. For that reason and on the base of verified hypotheses, the author has elaborated 15 suggestions under which the quality of care for handicapped children could be arranged from the health, psychological, social and human rights perspective.

On the base of the above stated outputs, the author of the Dissertation has prepared an educational program for professionals caring for families with handicapped children that could be implemented within lifelong education. The extent of the proposed educational course is 40 hours and the author has elaborated the whole course into 10 partial modules. He has set input conditions, as well as evaluation conditions.

At the end of the Dissertation, the author summarizes the theoretical and research parts of the Dissertation. He submits summary of hypotheses and the level of their verification. A summary of actions suitable for implementation in practice follows.

Conclusion: The submitted Dissertation of Doc. Dr. László Horváth, MA, complies with all requirements; therefore I recommend it for oral plea. After successful plea, I recommend awarding the degree of Ph.D. in the

scientific discipline: Prevention, remedy and therapy of health and social issues of children, adults and seniors.

Additional questions to the author:

What is his opinion on respite care as social service for parents of handicapped children?

What is the author's opinion on community social and health care for families of handicapped children?

At Soběslav, May 5, 2010

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive letter 'S' followed by a small dot.