EDITORIAL MARTA KOLAŘÍKOVÁ

Dear readers,

I am pleased to present another issue of the journal Social Pathology and Prevention. It contains three studies that hint at the future format of our publication. From the next edition, we would like to have a specific thematic focus to each issue, but, at the same time, to explore different aspects of the topic in question. We hope that the new direction of the journal in terms of content will be reflected in the number of papers submitted. The first article is by our dear colleague from the USA, Jo Ann R. Regan, in which she describes *The Three Pillars of the Social Work Profession in the United States: Education, Practice, and Regulation.* It is a descriptive study of the US social work system, including both undergraduate education and professional organizations. The progress of social work as a profession in the US has been shaped by the interaction of these three national social work organizations, which act as pillars of the profession, and which work together to achieve certain defined professional aims.

The second article is also from the US and deals with Restorative Justice Practices: Making Schools Safe through Relationship. Restorative justice practices have a positive effect on a range of important school outcomes, including a reduction in exclusionary discipline rates, and a growth in academic performance, school safety, and relationships within schools (involving teachers, students, and families). When implemented effectively and consistently in schools, it can improve school safety and increase high school graduation rates.

The third study deals with a topic that exists on the fringes; indeed some prefer to pretend it does not exist at all. The authors, from the Czech Republic, draw attention to the issue of LGBTQ+ seniors who have experienced discrimination and ostracism all their lives, and are, hence, very distrustful of health and social services. The article and its findings will help to make this topic more visible and increase awareness of LGBTQ+ issues in care professionals.

The example of good practice comes from the US and is authored by Anthony M. McCrovitz. We learn interesting details about the Gentle Teaching Philosophy in connection with quality of life and its improvement for people with various types of disability in a humane way.

Finally, the report and the book review introduce the topic of the next issue of the journal – i.e., the Snoezelen method.

It remains for me to inform authors who wish to make future contributions to our journal that the proposed topics are as follows:

1/2021 Snoezelen as inclusion support/prevention of exclusion

2/2021 On the fringes of society

1/2022 Online world, social bubbles and risks

2/2022 Contemporary prisons

1/2023 Security and risk in the context of urban and rural areas

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