SHORT PAPER

A Study of “Cultural Competence” in Social Work Education Research: Using Quantitative Content Analysis on English-Written Literature

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ABSTRACT

In the field of Taiwanese social work, the importance of the concept of “cultural competence” has been increasingly recognized because of the effect of globalization and the respect of ethnic minorities. However, the methods of cultivating cultural competence in social work education have not been established.

In the United States, cultural competence has been positively discussed, practiced, educated, and evaluated. In fact, the National Association of Social Workers established the “standard for cultural competence in social work.” However, we cannot find research that holistically discusses cultural competence in the following three respects:

1. To explore the backgrounds of cultural competence in the field of social work education
2. To explore the domains of social work education in which cultural competence has been referred to
3. To explore what is expected of social work professionals

Therefore, in this paper I focus on cultural competence in the field of social work education and explore how it has been addressed in English literature, especially in the United States.

In order to tackle this subject, I use the content analysis, and I analyze the backgrounds of cultural competence education, expectations of the professional, educational methods, supporting subjects, and educational subjects. This research, which considers cultural competence education, might be useful for the social work education of Asia.

<Key-words>
cultural competence, social work education, content analysis, self-awareness, National Association of Social Workers

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