

Abstract

Rituals can be described as ceremonial acts, that have typical rules and own significance. They have their place not only for substance abusers within therapeutic communities, but in a daily life also. Usually, rituals are bonded to traditions of a specific community and they provide a possibility for an individual to identify with this community. They provide also strong emotional experience and they concern spiritual parts of the individual as well.

The main objective of this study is to provide a possible view of clients of each stages of final ritual in specific therapeutic community and to find out how it is perceived and valued in a case of a given attitude on their process of own treatment.

The elaborated work is focused on emotions which are experienced by clients, whether and in a case how they sense the person, to whom is the ritual addressed, and how they sense therapists and objects which are used during the ritual.

In the elaborated work is used a qualitative approach. Data were collected by individual semi-structured interviews. The sample was chosen by a method of intended choice via an institution, it is consisted of therapeutic community White Light I clients, which were present in the community at that time and simultaneously participated on the leaving ritual in this community.

Results of the work have brought a knowledge, that the leaving ritual has mostly a positive response from therapeutic community clients and it could be a certain motivational element for them. Results of the research can also provide a practical feedback for the therapeutic team especially in the way how chosen clients sense this ritual and how they evaluate it.

Key words

addiction treatment, therapeutic community, ritual, client