

Abstract

In this thesis I deal with the influence of personal lived experience of ex-users on their therapeutic work with the clients in addiction treatment. The personal experience in this case is meant an experience with the substance abuse or playing on the slot machines which led to addiction. For this work it is also important the personal experience of following treatment of addictive behavior by ex-users themselves.

In the theoretical part I address the former career of ex-user in addiction services, the role of ex-user in the therapeutic team, the motivation of ex-user to work with addicted clients, but also the opportunities of his education and anchoring the work of ex-user in the Standards of services for drug users and pathological players.

As the goal of the practical part I set myself to describe how the ex-user's own experiences with addiction and its treatment participate when working with clients. Besides this main objective I am also dealing with ex-user's motivation for his work, the potential risks, the impact of education on the work of ex-users and also the relationship between ex-user and his colleagues. To answer the research questions I used a semi-structured interview. To analyze the text I used the techniques of text colouring and encoding, allowing the final analysis, interpretation and evaluation of research results. The research sample consisted of five respondents - therapists who work with addicted clients.

In the conclusion of this work there is a discussion to answer research questions, evaluate the results and fulfillment of objectives.

Keywords:

Therapist, an ex-user, dependence, addiction treatment, therapy, experience