

Dissertation marking and feedback sheet

Programme: Erasmus Mundus MA/Mgr. in Special and Inclusive Education

Module: Dissertation

Module code: ERM030L003S

Student Name: Lenuta Vintila

Student Number:

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1st Marker's name: doc. PhDr. Jan Šiška, PhD.

2nd Marker's name: Mgr. Šárka Káňová /in italic/

Use (i.e. exploration and discussion) of literature/evidence

Lenuta shows critical and analytical thinking about literature and synthesises it. The literature review integrates information from other relevant fields for example from disability studies. Despite being a foreigner in the Czech republic Lenuta displays understanding of the history and context of the problem of active citizenship, deinstitutionalization and social policies of the country. What I particularly appreciate that Lenuta organised analysis around themes and conceptual categories.

The theme of the dissertation selected is actual and still not adequately described in the current Czech academic literature. It is highly important not only in the Czech Republic, but in all European Countries in regard with the implementation of Disability Policies across the whole European Union. Lenuta, being a professional in work with people with disabilities, displays a deep understanding of the research problem and overall context of the situation in Europe and in the Czech Republic as well.

Lenuta set clear aims, which she was able to operationalize. Explanation of the topic was created with succinct justification using the relevant and actual literature.

By thorough review of the relevant literature she systematically analysed and by all main variables and arguments identification, she demonstrated strong academic skills. Her critical evaluation is firmly linked to justification and methodology used.

Points:

In chapter 5 Evaluation and Conclusion and chapter 5.3. (pp. 68) Lenuta point out that there is no legal infrastructure that would support the process of deinstitutionalization. Despite the fact that the Czech Republic does not have a specific legal framework for the process of deinstitutionalization, there exist certain law and certain policies that shift or at least enhance service providers to establish community social services.

Design of project– research question or hypothesis, and methodology

The research design and questions are based on the original research study conducted by the tutor. Lenuta's project was a pilot with aim to provide us with initial

findings which would shape our future steps during the project.

Lenuta demonstrated her ability to write logically and consistently. She improved her writing style extensively.

The methods to some extent flows from questions and theory. The participatory approach was applied in the project. Participants had long and rich experience with institutional care.

The methodological dilemmas are addressed same as ethics. Not much is there about specific tools used during interviews such as easy language, pictures. (?)

Lenuta used a participatory research supported by a qualitative research design in a correct and a creative way. She demonstrates a very good understanding of the choice of methods and can discuss the advantages and disadvantages of them.

Lenuta was in touch with one institution providing services to people with ID currently undergoing the process of deinstitutionalization set by a Transformation process of residential social services addressed to people with disabilities and coordinated on a national level.

Despite of significant communication barriers between her and Czech respondents, Lenuta demonstrated a very active and creative approach. Collaboration with a translator for communication with the respondents and usage of audio - records for further analysis were used. Due to direct involvement of persons with ID into the research Lenuta also used a set of pictograms that helped her to introduce rather abstract research task to respondents.

Main points:

- *Mapping the situation in a single institutional setting is not representative enough for all the country. It is thus difficult to make any conclusion from the study & is also very possible that the situation in the studied field could vary among the Czech institutions.*
- *Could you please summarize your research findings in terms of what you have learnt from conducting the qualitative research strategy? What was the most important according to you; what would you highlight?*
- *In case you would lead a similar research project in the future what kind of research methods would you use? Would you use the same methods?*

Data analysis and Presentation

Lenuta used advanced and appropriate method to analyse data. Data are presented clearly. To some extent Lenuta links results to question and theory. Social policy, reports, and legal instruments are often present to link the findings with them. The results are presented in meaningful way. Recommendations formulated. Limitations of the study critically presented.

Thematic analyses were used in the study. The method for analyzing data, the dilemmas that are connected to it and ethical considerations are well illustrated on pages 32 – 36. Analysis is appropriate and correct.

The analytical framework consisted on three pre-coded domains at the beginning of the study based on Marshall's model of citizenship and anchored in CRPD; social security, personal autonomy and political influence. Data were examined in order to find constructs to describe the pre-coded Active Citizenship domains in relation to people with intellectual disabilities. Data presentation was precise and well-structured.

Structure, communication, and presentation

Well written, organized and presented.

Lenuta was an independent and very committed student. Her attitude towards research respondents based on empowerment and partnership must be acknowledged.

Lenuta, look at the chapter 5.3. What evidence there is support your claims?

Secondly, how will you transfer and use your new knowledge and expertise in your home country.

Overall, well done!

The work has a clear and cohesive structure. It is very well presented with accurate citations and bibliography. Lenuta discussed strengths, weaknesses and limitations of the approach she has chosen. The interpretation of data in Conclusion is provided carefully due to low number of respondents. The author put emphases not to generalize her findings.

Lenuta has submitted an excellent and creative thesis. The theme selected is very actual and important. The work is well written with a proper use of academic language. She demonstrates broad theoretical understanding of the subject area and is able to discuss her contribution in relation to the development of the subject and the latest research. She has generated important problem formulations and methods for solution and has used these in a relevant way in the thesis.

- *Could you please articulate your personal opinion on deinstitutionalisation process in the Czech Republic and compare it with your experience with this phenomenon from your country?*

AGREED MARK:

(All Grades are provisional and Subject to Confirmation by the Board of Examiners and by Senate)

excellent