




EMPOWERING SOCIAL WORKERS TO SUPPORT DEAF/MUTE INDIVIDUALS ACROSS GENERATIONS :: A CONTEMPORARY PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL WORK PERSPECTIVE.

SHAIK SAMEER



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Abstract

The empowerment of social workers to effectively support deaf and mute individuals across generations has become increasingly important in contemporary society. Deaf and mute persons often experience communication barriers, social exclusion, discrimination, emotional distress, and limited access to educational, healthcare, and employment opportunities. These challenges vary across generations due to differences in technology, awareness, family support, cultural attitudes, and social policies. In this context, social workers play a crucial role in promoting inclusion, psychological well-being, advocacy, rehabilitation, and social justice for deaf and mute communities.

This paper explores the contemporary psychological and social work perspectives related to empowering professionals who work with deaf and mute individuals. It highlights the importance of communication skills such as sign language proficiency, cultural sensitivity, empathy, counseling abilities, and interdisciplinary collaboration. The study also emphasizes the need for mental health support, community-based interventions, family counseling, educational empowerment, and policy advocacy to improve the quality of life of deaf and mute persons across different age groups.

Furthermore, the paper discusses how modern technology, inclusive education, and rights-based approaches have transformed support systems for deaf and mute individuals in recent years. Social workers must be trained to understand generational differences, psychological needs, identity development, and social participation among individuals with hearing and speech impairments. By strengthening professional competence and adopting inclusive practices, social workers can contribute significantly to empowerment, accessibility, dignity, and equal opportunities for deaf and mute individuals in contemporary society.

Keywords :

Deaf and Mute Individuals, Social Work, Psychological Support, Empowerment, Inclusive Education, Sign Language, Mental Health, Disability Studies, Community Inclusion, Rehabilitation, Generational Differences, Contemporary Social Work Practice.