

The understandings of social pedagogy

Associate Professor Lisbeth Eriksson,
Department of Behavioural Sciences and
Learning, Linköping University, Social work,
Stockholm University

Social pedagogy as

- a profession or a field of professional activities
- an academic discipline or rather a study subject
- a research field

The state of social pedagogy in Sweden today

- in practice - increasing interest
- In education (in universities, social work) – less visible and explicit
- in education (folk high schools) – growing and today big interest
- in research – a core of researchers with interest in SP

Swedish research related to social pedagogy

- Sp as a concept
- Sp in different contexts
- Normality, inclusion, exclusion
- Adult education
- Elderly people
- Community

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- *“Social pedagogues without borders – social pedagogical meanings”*
 - - interview study
 - - Denmark, Finland, Norway, Germany and Sweden
 - - 9 interviews, 7 men and 2 women

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- Two discourses:
the universalistic and the particularistic

The discourses are intertwined and presuppose each other.

The discourses are a theoretical construction but based on empirical data

The universalistic discourse

1. Historical roots:

- German social philosophy
- Latin American pedagogy
- American social work
- Nordic psychiatry

■ 2. Theories with relevance for SP

- methodical theories
- explanatory theories
- theories as point of reference

■ 3. Important concepts:

- bildung
- community

- **4. Social pedagogical knowledge objects.**

The temporary prevailing conceptions of the phenomena and the relationships that are central in the field

The particularistic discourse

Different categories were constructed:

SP as a goal

- socialisation
- mobilization – integration
- citizenship dimension

SP as an approach

- empathetic
- pragmatic
- fronesis
- awareness of the world around

SP as a method

- creative methods
- community work or community development

Social pedagogical tools

- relations
- dialogue
- action

Professional SP roles

- external or internal

Target groups

- from the children and young people to all vulnerable or marginalized
- from the individual to the whole family or network

SP arenas

- new arenas

Social pedagogical models

	<u>Adaptive</u>	<u>Mobilizing</u>	<u>Democratic</u>
■ Tools	relation	action	dialogue
■ Methods	treating methods target to the individual	structural method target to the society	animation target to the group
■ Attitudes/ approaches	individualistic	collective, change	practical wisdom
■ concepts	community	empowerment, emancipation	bildung citizenship