

Mgr Renata Deka,

## **Social rehabilitation via social inclusion on the example of prisoners volunteering in hospice care**

Crime is a socially negative phenomenon which violates the existing social order. In an effort to preserve it, the society isolates persons who violate the existing norms in penitentiaries. Placing an individual in a detention centre is supposed to help them function correctly after they have served their sentence. However, the imprisonment itself does not guarantee any improvement in the prisoner, it is therefore necessary to search for solutions which can contribute to a development of the implemented social rehabilitation measures. One of the manifestations of this search is the increased interest in the idea of social inclusion in rehabilitation. This thesis is consistent with this direction. The author's goal, implemented via her own research project, was to solve the key problem of the thesis by analysing Polish and international literature and by preparing and carrying out research. The main problem of this PhD thesis is included in the following question: What is the function of social inclusion of prisoners in the rehabilitation process if it is implemented by engaging them in hospice volunteer work? The answer to this question is formulated in this thesis, which is comprised of five chapters.

The first chapter discusses the questions of imprisonment and social rehabilitation. It includes an explanation of what is social rehabilitation and what are its objectives; it also presents key rehabilitation concepts in Poland. Furthermore, it discusses the idea of social inclusion as a strategy of designing measures for inmates. The last paragraph includes inspirations for the idea of social inclusion which come from theoretical concepts dealing with the relationship between the individual and the society.

The second chapter discusses palliative and hospice care, explaining its genesis and development in Poland and throughout the world. It also presents the rules which make up the so-called *hospice philosophy*, as well as the available organizational forms of care of patients who need support as their life comes to a close. Finally, it discusses the tasks of each member of the interdisciplinary team providing stationary and home care, which includes medical and non-medical professionals as well as trained volunteers.

The third chapter deals with volunteering activities. It discusses the development of voluntary work, definitions, and the characteristics of different forms of voluntary work. It discusses questions related to the motivation of volunteers as well as the psycho-pedagogical aspects of their work. This part also includes the problem of voluntary engagement in palliative and hospice care, particularly using volunteering in hospice care as a form of activation of the socially maladjusted.

The fourth chapter presents the methodological assumptions of the author's own research project. This part includes the object and the goal of the research, the paradigm and the research strategy, research instruments and consecutive research steps. The chapter also includes considerations of the ethics and credibility of the research conducted, as well as the list of the limits of the undertaken explorations.

The last chapter is a presentation of the results of the research conducted among 34 informers from three research groups: prisoners – hospice volunteers, prison officers, and the members of interdisciplinary care teams. This chapter is an analysis of the collected empirical material, which constitutes the first research of this kind. This research engaged 3 out of 4 parties of the processes observed, excluding the gravely ill and their families, for ethical reasons. The chapter ends with the research results as well as drawn up recommendations.

The thesis ends with a summary. Together with conclusions and recommendations, it includes a confrontation of the theoretical considerations of the thesis and the results of the author's own research. Presentation of multiple functions of social inclusion of prisoners achieved by engaging them in hospice volunteer work, based on the first research in this field, constitutes new knowledge for the implemented and planned rehabilitation projects. The thesis also includes a bibliography, a list of graphics included herein, and annexes.

**Keywords:** social rehabilitation, social inclusion, volunteering, palliative and hospice care, prisoners volunteering in hospice care