

Workshop SocNet98
Humak. April 20, 2021
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Urban art as an innovate way in social work: an approach to social needs from students of Social Education Bachelor Degree

INTRODUCTION

- Introduce myself
- Introduce workshop

Contextualizing the workshop

In recent years, social problems have grown in complexity. The systemic crisis of 2008 and the COVID-19 crisis which has had repercussions at a global level, led to the emergence of new social risks (Oosterlynck, et al. 2013). Fact that has highlighted the fragility of people and their risk of social exclusion. Authors like Beck, (1998) talk about the generalization of vulnerability.

The purpose of this workshop is to find other ways to express and work on the social needs that we have to address from social work. To make it more practical, the workshop will have two parts.

- 1) Firstly, I will show you a graffiti made this year with social education students from the University of Girona. In the subject social policies we talked about discomfort and vulnerability, and how the pandemic crisis impacted us. Today, with this workshop we will start from this idea to work and reflect on the need to innovate and introduce urban art in the practice of social workers.
- 2) Secondly, I will propose you to create an online painting, configured for multiple paintings created by little groups, and we will debate around how we position ourselves as future professionals, and how to work the social needs with innovative proposals. To carry it out, we will paint, write, dialogue and try to work on our artistic side.

COURAGE AND PROMOTING CHANGES: SOCIAL WORK CHALLENGES

Before start workshop, I want to share with all of you a song by Tupac Shakur, and initiate a little debate about it.

Changes. 2Pac

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXvBjCO19QY>

- What is the song about
- Why do you think I put it on you?
- What makes you think about?

URBAN ART AS AN INNOVATE WAY IN SOCIAL WORK

Living in a pandemic and in circumstances we would never have imagined puts our attention on "us" and "others" from a perspective we had never experienced in the first person. This situation has put us on the ropes, and has in a way hidden the community bonds and those life stories that enrich us. It has demotivated us, broken us, disconnected us, and taken us away from the center of college life, when in reality we have never been far from it.

In this case, urban art helped us to express ourselves, and to give voice to our vulnerability. I would now like to show you the work we did, and the graffiti that can be found today at our university.

Let's see the graffiti:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkxuGP57juE>

Once we have seen the graffiti, we will do the second part of the workshop. You will be divided into groups, but firstly allow me a few minutes to explain the instructions.

Once you are in your group you should make a painting or poem that inspires you from what we have talked about and complements the graffiti you have seen. You have 30 minutes to do it.

To help you, I suggest you talk first about 3 questions I will leave you now too on the chat:

- 1) What does this graffiti say about me? about us?
- 2) What do the people who appear say or express?
- 3) Who are they? What is the essence of social work?

Once the painting or poem is done, you should share it on the padlet I created for this occasion and complement the graffiti. The idea is that with your creation you will complement the story. In other words, let's create a new graffiti.

I leave you the link to the padlet, where you will also find the instructions.

<https://padlet.com/eduardcarrera/dq8fhjxktgijqiv6>

Important before going to groups: You have to do a painting with your group, or you can put different paints together. If you write a poem, it could be in different languages, but the title or main reflection must be in English

Now, I will randomly send you to a zoom room. You must accept when the message calling you to a group appears on your screen. I will visit all the groups, and If you have any questions you can contact me by chat.

CLOSING THE WORKSHOP

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| Let's show you the result of your contributions |
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Social work has the challenge of finding new ways of working and approaching social needs, the empowerment of people, and address their problems in another way. Urban art can help social work to create innovative process with groups we work with, and it must allow us to address complexity. Art could be valued as an applied tool of social change and that serves to empower people. At the same time, it can become an instrument that allows us to focus socio-educational practice on other ways more innovative to promote social change and citizen welfare.

With this workshop I presented you a new way of approaching social needs, and the importance of expressing them. Urban art can be an instrument for exploring new forms of socio-educational action.

Finally, I would like to ask you:

- What are the main reflections you have taken from this workshop?
- How do you think urban art can help you?
- What have you learned?