

Maintaining Objectivity as a Professional in Social Services

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Abstract

Through the use of a survey with seventeen participants the project set out to determine how and to what degree social service professionals remain objective in their work. Objectivity is a frequently misunderstood concept, which often results in a variety of different applications, or even avoidance of the approach within social service fields. Through analysis of survey data there is an examination of the significance of the term and its application to social service professionals. Additionally, provided is an evaluation as to whether or not objectivity has a connection to human rights and ethics. The overall results of the project indicated that the measures of commitment to and understanding of objectivity for social service professionals is difficult to capture and there is still a need for greater education and understanding on the subject.

Keywords: objectivity, social service professionals, ethics, human rights