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Observed Coherent Triads in Swedish Social Work Practice.

Analysis of Observed Successful Collaboration Beneficial for Clients in Swedish Juvenile Care

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BOOK

of ABSTRACTS

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Observed Coherent Triads in Swedish Social Work Practice. Analysis of Observed Successful Collaboration Beneficial for Clients in Swedish Juvenile

Previous research on collaboration in social work practice shows that conflicts among collaborating authorities and organizations and that include cooperating actors are common. In this study, I have analyzed a successful dimension of the phenomenon "cooperation." The purpose of the study is to analyze examples of successful cooperation in Swedish social work practice. This study presents an analysis of factors of "successful collaboration" as described in the field notes of the study and that can be interpreted as beneficial for the youth in

question. A total of 119 field observations of organized and informal meetings form the empirical basis for this study. The observations took place before and after these meetings and during visits to youth care institutions in Sweden, social services offices, and the Swedish National Board of Institutional Care. The factors used in the empirical material of this study serve to define successful cooperation that makes visible actors belonging to at least three different categories (coherent triad in the collaborative act). Constructing and reconstructing a collaboration success is a dynamic, interactive process. Coherent triads and success points of interest that are beneficial for the young person in the situation also create the image of a positive development for the young person. In this way, common identities of interplay that are useful for the young person are being created and elucidated. The physical presence of the young person in these situations is especially important factor for the “successful collaboration.”

Keywords: juvenile, youth care, social care, collaboration, triad, success points of interest, moral, collaboration identity, triad coherence, field notes, field work