

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

FINAL EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2018

TITLE OF PAPER: PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PSYCHOTHERAPY
INTERVENTIONS

COURSE CODE: SWK431

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: QUESTION ONE (1) IS COMPULSORY
ANSWER ANY OTHER TWO (2) QUESTIONS

ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS

MARKS: 100

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INVIGILATOR

QUESTION 1 (COMPULSORY)

Lomagugu, age 23, gave birth to her first child three days ago. Her initial complaints consisted of insomnia, restlessness, and emotional lability that progressed to confusion, irritability, delusions and thoughts of wanting to harm her baby. Lomagugu was referred to a mental health specialist but has since refused to access this service. Her reasons for refusing mental health care are that she is not a “lunatic” and that her family will disown her if she is perceived as mentally ill.

Discuss, in detail, mental illness stigma and its effect on the use of mental health services in the Kingdom of Eswatini. In your discussion, include possible stigma reduction interventions that can be put in place to assist Lomagugu.

QUESTION 2

Grayson accepted a new job in another town several hundred miles away, and he is worried about leaving his 72-year-old father behind. Grayson’s father lives alone, is very confused, and is bowel and bladder inconsistent. In addition, the father suffered a mild stroke several years ago, which left a number of areas in his brain damaged. He is now showing signs of neurological impairment.

Discuss the most likely DSM-V diagnosis of Kenny’s father?

QUESTION 3

The paediatrician notes that Georgia has been having problems at school and that her academic progress has been affected recently. She also observes that Georgia struggles to sit still during the consultation and that Emma has come prepared with books and toys, which are of limited success in keeping Georgia occupied. Emma admits that this is normal for Georgia and that it has always been difficult to retain her attention for more than around 10 minutes at a time.

Discuss Georgia’s diagnosis and possible interventions that you would put in place as Georgia’s social worker. Substantiate your responses.

QUESTION 4

Myles was a 20 year-old man who was brought to the emergency room by the campus police of the college from which he had been suspended several months ago. A professor had called and reported that Myles had walked into his classroom, accused him of taking his tuition money and refused to leave. Although Myles had much academic success as a teenager, his behavior had become increasingly odd during the past year. He quit seeing his friends and no longer seemed to care about his appearance or social pursuits. He began wearing the same clothes each day and seldom bathed. He lived with several family members but rarely spoke to any of them. When he did talk to them, he said he had found clues that his college was just a front for an organized crime operation. He had been suspended from college because of missing many classes. His sister said that she had often seen him mumbling quietly to himself and at times he seemed to be talking to people who were not there. He would emerge from his room and ask his family to be quiet even when they were not making any noise.

Discuss Myles' diagnosis and possible interventions that you would put in place as Myles' social worker. Substantiate your responses.

QUESTION 5

Maria Gonzalez was agitated and screaming when her family brought her to the emergency room of a local hospital. The previous week, Maria had learned that her former husband had remarried in their home country, the Dominican Republic. Since then, she became increasingly agitated, has developed insomnia, and is unable to eat-and by the time she arrived at the emergency room, she alternated between being mute and mumbling unintelligibly Spanish and English. She was admitted to the psychiatric unit and was given a small dose of antipsychotic medication with no response. The social worker reported that Ms. Gonzalez had outbursts of bizarre behavior, had ideas of reference, complained of headaches, and felt 'out of control.' In addition she cried and pulled her hair, rocked back and forth and could not be consoled. Over a period of three days, Maria's family assured her that she and her children would be well cared for, and the psychotic-like symptoms resolved, at which she was released from the hospital.

Discuss the possible diagnosis of Ms. Gonzalez?

QUESTION 6

Kenny a third year medical student, returned to the student health services for the fifth time with complaints of diarrhea. After a thorough medical checkup Kenny was told there is no organic disease present. Despite this reassurance from several doctors, Kenny continued to test his stool for blood and remained convinced that the doctor missed making the correct diagnosis. He has insomnia, restless and irritable. Discuss the diagnosis and the symptoms Kenny exhibiting?

Given the status of the patient what steps can the social worker take to understand the underlying problems of the patient.