User Manual: Critically Infused Social Work Website

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SOWK 5010: Introduction to Social Work Theories and Critical Practice Skills Part I

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Accessing the Critically Infused Social Work Website

Link: https://www.criticallyinfusedsw.com/

Introduction to the Critically Infused Social Work Website

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, many social workers, social work students and other service providers are overwhelmingly restricted to both working online and accessing digital content to learn, research and even apply social work in practice. For this reason, we decided a fitting format for a hands-on critical social work (CSW) practice resource would be through the development of a website. Our website, Critically Infused Social Work, serves as a resource for social workers to learn about and engage with both critical and conventional approaches for developing an infused CSW practice. A unique contribution of this website is that, in addition to descriptions of both <u>critical and conventional social work approaches</u>, it offers suggestions on how to "infuse" conventional approaches with critical social science theories. Ultimately, the website hopes to serve as a resource for social workers who would like to develop an infused CSW praxis.

What is An Infused Approach?

Critical theories often do not fit neatly into conventional approaches. We have used the term "infused approach" to acknowledge that the application of a critical theory to a conventional social work approach can often modify some of the fundamental components of the conventional approach. Furthermore, the critical theory itself can change when asked to take an applied form.

Website Sections

Home Page

Upon accessing the website, the homepage provides a quick introduction to the resource, its purpose, and how a user can navigate the site. By clicking "Start Here", the website will take you to three introductory materials which are meant to help you engage with the website's content, including:

- What is critical social work?

- What are reflection and critical reflexivity?

- A conversation with postmodernism

Central Headers

Then it's up to you! You can navigate through the different headings of the website, as reviewed below, to explore and discover what the website covers on theory, approaches, and considerations for practice:

- Critical Theories

- Conventional Approaches

- Infused Approaches

- References

- About Us (Author Bios)

Let's Get Started!

This website is based on the lectures, readings, and other resources from Dr. Renee Sloos' course, SOWK 5010: Introduction to Social Work Theories and Critical Practice Skills Part I, at York University. It also highlights some additional sources. Therefore, this website does not provide an exhaustive overview of each topic, but rather presents some points from

relevant literature. We suggest you check out our references page to view recommended readings on critical social work. The website includes a downloadable PDF document of the written content for accessible reading, as well as a list of referenced sources. We also invite you to connect with us (by clicking the 'contact us' button) if you have any comments, feedback, or questions regarding the website. We believe it is important to offer this line of communication to pursue a collaborative approach to knowledge production.

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