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Clinic for Handicap and Rehabilitation Psychology

A master degree programme for psychology students in Denmark



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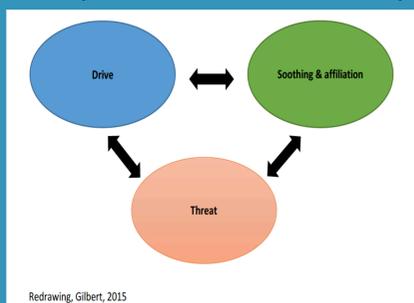
Introduction

The field of rehabilitation may be undergoing a paradigmatic shift from a strict biomedical focus on disabilities towards a more encompassing bio-psycho-social perspective. However, we found (authors, 2016) that actual rehabilitation practise in Denmark is almost exclusively based on biological and practical aspects. Rehabilitation psychology has been growing as a field in the US and several European countries but is yet to be developed in Denmark.

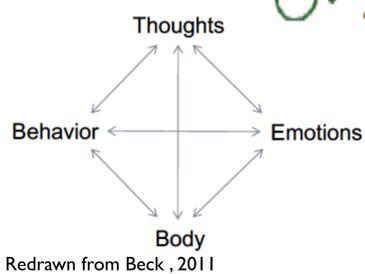
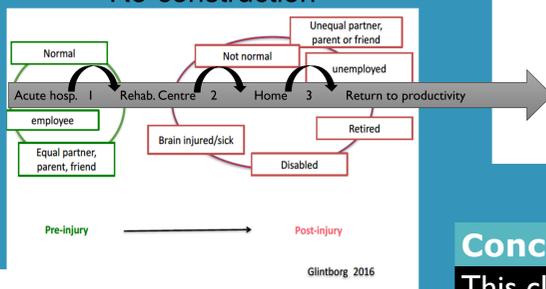
To help achieve this, we developed the programme Clinic for Handicap and Rehabilitation Psychology (CHaRe). CHaRe is a master degree program at the Department of Communication and Psychology at Aalborg University (AAU). CHaRe aims at qualifying students for future work as rehabilitation psychologists. The programme spans 4 semesters and is organized partly in relation to curriculum, partly in relation to clinical practice where students will offer a manual based intervention to clients with disabilities (acquired brain injuries) and their close relatives.

The CHaRe programme

Compassion Focused Therapy



Identity Re-construction



Cognitive Behavioral Therapy



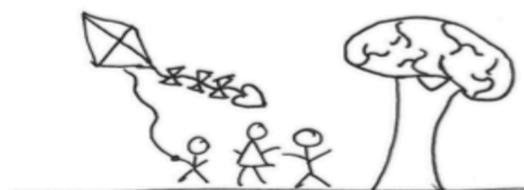
Animal Assisted Intervention



Mindfulness

BackUp! – the intervention manual

BackUp!



Drawing by Kristian Larsen

For adults with an acquired brain injury and their close relatives

© Clinic for Handicap og Rehabiliteringspsychology (CHaRe)

Conclusion

This close connection between research, education and practice rests on the didactic idea of problem-based learning. The students are dealing with authentic psychological problems as part of their professional training, intertwined with more theoretical parts of the education. This way of organizing teaching and learning holds some very interesting educational possibilities, for example, how students find motivation from the different cases, how their learning is structured by clinical practice, and how they feel prepared for a job after graduation rather than fear a practice shock.

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