

Yulia Fionik

Faculty of Sociology
St. Petersburg State University

jil.f@mail.ru

THE SYSTEM OF SOCIAL SUPPORT TO HIV-INFECTED WOMEN WITH CHILDREN

Social support system in the Russian Federation has recently changed. By 2010, in St. Petersburg was opened 18 state offices on the basis of "Center of social assistance to families and children ", which is working with HIV-infected women. It is necessary to investigate efficiency of their activity.

In the first quarter 2011, the author had been conducted research, in five centers of St.-Petersburg. Guidelines of experts at rendering of social support from the point of view of a regulation have been investigated. In St.-Petersburg now professionals use standards of social service of the population at work with social groups. Classification in standards is carried out on 24 social groups. In these standards the HIV-infected group in a separate group isn't selected. Work of experts in the given standard which are not considering specificity of disease, don't allow provide adequate social support.

To provide adequate social support need to identify the needs of this group.

The author has been analyzed 80 cases of families of HIV-infected with children which are under the supervision of experts at least one year as a result of identified needs of HIV-infected women and their children in accordance with the following directions (Table 1).The given directions are allocated in standards of social service of the population of St.-Petersburg.

Table 1: Needs of HIV-infected women with children by the number of services provided

| Needs of HIV-infected women with children | Number of services |
|--|---------------------------|
| Socio-medical | 3736 |
| Socio-psychological | 4323 |
| Socio-economic | 1248 |
| Socio-legal | 2037 |
| Social-amenities | 1341 |
| Socio-pedagogical | 6036 |

- on the first place in group of a HIV-infected of women with children there are socially-pedagogical needs, that testifies to insufficient readiness of the woman for a role of mother;
- on the second place there are socially-psychological needs, that is caused by a psychological condition of a HIV-infected of the woman with the child: stigma, anxiety, agitation for the child, the fear to inform relatives about their diagnosis, and others;
- socially-medical needs are the third place, it is connected by that the woman worries first of all for the child, however health the woman frequently doesn't think of the.

Identify the needs of HIV-infected women with children also need to determine the adaptive potential. Korel defines adaptive potential as "the set of properties, qualities, characteristics (resources) that exist in adaptanta in latent form and are utilized, i. e. actualized in the course of adaptation" [Korel, 2005, 307]. The adaptive potential is an important component of social adaptation.

Perhaps to be effective social support system should focus its efforts on the inclusion in the system the help on social adaptation as one of the directions of social support.

Social support by individuals, which guarantees a sense of security, stimulating activity of the individual, making it possible to ignore the experiences of a difficult situation, that's what is need by the HIV-positive.

References

Korel 2005: *Sociology of adaptations problems of theory and methodology*, Novosibirsk: Nauka