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BOOK REVIEW: *OBRAZOVANJE ZA SAOSEĆANJE* [EDUCATION ON COMPASSION], BY ISIDORA JARIĆ, BELGRADE: SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF HEALTH CULTURE AND THE CENTER FOR COOPERATION WITH THE EU, FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY, UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE, 2022, P. 157. ISBN 978-86-88813-15-0

Education on Compassion, a scientific monograph by the author Isidora Jarić, examines the problem of the civilizational taboo related to death and dying, which results in a kind of systemic social blindness to the everyday reality of palliative patients, their family members, and their (formal and informal) caregivers. Hidden in the title of the monograph is the author's primary intention to indicate a possible way to change the social attitude towards the topic of palliative care through social learning, which would, on the one hand, encourage and encourage Compassion, and on the other, deconstruct social taboos related to dying.

The author observes the topic from several angles, trying to connect different optics in her analysis, which she follows in separate chapters. After introductory considerations regarding the social landscapes of contemporary global society and the society of Serbia, as well as the processes that mark its social reality, the author directs her attention to the media reality and the resulting frames within which the phenomenon of palliative care is discursively positioned. These kinds of interpretative frameworks trace the social paths of relation to the topic within other layers of social reality. That is precisely what the author demonstrates in analyzing the content of curricula, public and hidden ones, within which future professionals in the field of palliative care are educated.

A particularly interesting part of the study is the interpretation of the research carried out with social actors involved in the palliative care process in different ways. The author performed the analysis on empirical material collected with the help of focus group interviews with doctors, nurses and technicians, caregivers, social workers, psychologists, public policymakers, and palliative patients and their family members. In addition to many significant findings, the one that talks about the gender imbalance

in the distribution of care work concerning the care of palliative patients is fascinating. Thus, once again and within this concrete analysis, which takes place outside the main social trends, patriarchy is documented, which shifts the most significant part of the burden of health and social care to women.

The scientific monograph *Education on Compassion* represents a precious contribution to understanding the connection between different social subsystems in articulating the social response to the growing need for palliative care. This study offers an interdisciplinary insight into stealthy work and social inequalities often not visible from the perspective of professionals working within the health and social care system. It is essential to mention that the study conceptualizes and maps the points of tension that mark the current state of palliative care within and outside the health and social system and the still few civil society initiatives and organizations that deal with palliative care in different ways.

The topicality and variety of problems related to palliative care are discussed in this book, as well as the combination of different methods of analysis of various empirical data on which this complex analysis rests. That fact makes this book an exciting read that reveals many hidden aspects of the social articulation of the phenomenon of palliative care. In our environment, this study represents the first attempt to consider the social expression of palliative care from a sociological perspective. Social processes of increasing life expectancy, progressive aging of the population, reduced access to health care, treatment and rehabilitation, controversies regarding the issue of euthanasia and the ethical (legislative) consequences arising from them, and dealing with pain, agony and loss of human dignity for palliative patients are essential topics. They establish the modern attitude towards palliative care, which will no doubt stimulate numerous intra-disciplinary and interdisciplinary polemics within the scientific community. The contribution of the monograph is multifaceted - as scientific analysis and critical review that opens up a deeply neglected and traumatic social issue, but also as an appeal, encouragement, inspiration, and warning.