

SECTION II. MICRO SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE	
SOCIAL WORK COMPETENCIES – SOCIAL JUSTICE	
NASW Competency	
Social Justice	<p>Social workers advocate on behalf of the oppressed, the marginalized, and anyone who needs their voice amplified. They often focus on issues such as poverty, homelessness, discrimination, harassment, and other forms of injustice. Social workers provide information, help, and other resources to people seeking equality, and they educate people who may not directly experience discrimination about the struggles of others who may not have the same level of privileges in our society.</p> <p>Social workers' efforts to address injustices includes examining their own biases and encouraging others to do the same. They work to create more equitable support systems and identify structural conditions that contribute to disparities in the health and well-being of individuals and communities (Tulane University School of Social Work, 2023).</p> <p>The school social worker must address several issues for Achara to have an academic experience equal to the other students. Achara's English is not sufficient so a social worker should help to find resources to Achara can be successful in school. Achara is also experiencing bullying and discrimination by her peers, which is unacceptable. The social worker will work with teachers and students individually and collectively, which may take the form of one-on-one meetings, support groups, educational workshops at the school, etc. A social worker will be extremely concerned about Achara's involuntary sex work. Justice may mean restricting contact with her boyfriend and even calling the police to report his behavior. The social worker may provide community referrals to the Chen family and work closely with other disciplines such as a behavioral health clinician or other healthcare professionals to address Achara's psychological and emotional concerns.</p>
SOCIAL WORK COMPETENCIES – SOCIAL JUSTICE - MICRO PRACTICE ACTIVITY	

NASW Core Principle: **Social Justice**

Social workers pursue social change, particularly with and on behalf of vulnerable and oppressed individuals and groups of people. Social workers' social change efforts are focused primarily on issues of poverty, unemployment, discrimination, and other forms of social injustice. These activities seek to promote sensitivity to and knowledge about oppression and cultural and ethnic diversity. Social workers strive to ensure access to needed information, services, and resources; equality of opportunity; and meaningful participation in decision making for all people.

Foundation Activity: Consider the NASW definition above. As a future social worker, in two or three sentences, write an academic policy strategy or programming enhancement the school can employ to support Achara in achieving parity in the school setting.

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IFSW Core Principle: **Promoting Social Justice**

Social workers have a responsibility to engage people in achieving social justice, in relation to society generally, and in relation to the people with whom they work (Challenging Discrimination and Institutional Oppression, Respect for Diversity, Access to Equitable Resources, Challenging Unjust Policies and Practices, and Building Solidarity).

Advanced Activity: Consider the IFSW definition above. At one of your collaborative meetings with school personnel, including the principal and parent advocacy group, write a two or three sentence strategy you would recommend the school execute to protect youth from commercial exploitation.

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