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"Hacia la construcción de las prácticas comunitarias de Terapeutas Ocupacionales en Chile, desde una mirada socio historica, desde 1972 hasta la actualidad".

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"Towards the construction of the Occupational Therapists community practices in Chile, from a social historic view, from 1972 until present"

The construction of practices for Occupational Therapists which have been realized through community works from the different perspectives in Chile. This issue is based on the experience, being there are no existing records in the country which can give account of the relation between different historic contexts and the practices.

Objective:

The study seeks and expects to comprehend the development of community practices for Occupational Therapists in distinct historic contexts of both political and social in Chile since 1972 until present.

Methods:

This investigation is a qualitative, collecting information parting on 11 semi structured interviews and group discussions. Information is analyzed in different categories, and points of view with a central axis (social historic context) in discussion with the theoretical approach.

Results:

Two categories related to the practice in the community emerged since the Occupational Therapists speech: Community Work and Community Intervention. These categories which predominate in Chile and are determined by the social historic context are defined in base of the political changes in the country (before dictatorship, dictatorship, after dictatorship).

Conclusion:

The social historic contexts determine the manner in which to perform community practices in Chile; these at the same time influence community interaction favoring or making more difficult its social participation. The Occupational Therapist is part of that social historic context by its identity, work group and community practice which is performed and constructed in day to life.

Contribution to the Occupational Therapist practice:

Occupational Therapists count with dependable tools to contribute to the community, however if he is not conscientious of the practices and how these have been constructed, he loses the possibility to generate change, substance participation and therefore the political dimension of his duty. Worrying about the occupation along with the day to day life involves an understanding of the social historic reality, determining ways to fulfill community practices of Occupational Therapists as well the community construction, which might expand to other spaces or Latin-American contexts.