

Review of: "A Deeper Look at the Origin and Evolution of the Social Work Profession"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This is a well-written and comprehensively researched account of some of the events that have led to the development of the discipline of social work as we know it today. I enjoyed the discourse as it traces the historical elements and philosophical foundations of the profession.

The author mentions that qualitative research methods were used, but I did not find much detail about these. I would suggest some further description of the methods, including any search strategy used.

I would also suggest introducing a definition or description of the term social work, along with any synonyms or alternatives, to show how the historical elements described have come together to give us modern-day social work. I would also be interested in some commentary on the strength of the evidence that social work originated in India. Have other authors described this? If so, it might be helpful to cite what they have said as part of the argument. If not, then it is worth making clear what is the author's original work and how this builds on the work of others.

Clarifying this point may be helpful in understanding the significance of the COS endeavour and the school of social work established in Amsterdam. Similarly, I would suggest clarifying if Addams used the term social worker and if this term was used by the Amsterdam school, i.e., when the term (or variants) was first used.

I think there is a minor typo in the date of Richmond's book 'Social Diagnosis' - should it be 1917?

Finally, I think a little more could be said about the "field's potential futures" given the past, as mentioned in the introduction.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this interesting paper.