UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

SWK 402: YOUTH AT RISK

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER EXAMINATIONS

YEAR 2018

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Time: 3 Hours
Subject Code: SWK 402
Marks: 100

This paper consists of 3 pages including the cover page

EXAMINERS
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EXTERNAL EXAMINER
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INSTRUCTIONS

1. Write clearly and legibly.
2. Each Section carries 50 marks
3. Section A: Question 1 is compulsory. Answer any other question.
4. Section B: Question 1 is compulsory. Answer any other question.
SECTION A
Question 1 (Compulsory)

Read the newspaper article below and answer the question that follows:

“Meaningless” reports by social workers

"After her uncle (21) repeatedly raped client X (18) the Probation officer accepted a mini-report from a forensic social worker outlining her observations of fear, panic attack etc, and indeed the child was sexually molested (the probation reported). Notably, the probation officer made it clear that the uncle needs to be sentenced a maximum of 20 years by the court. This is because there has been number of cases similar to this whereby incest has turned to be a culture among the S.A citizens (the Probation officer reported). Shockingly, in her report, there were some typographical mistakes and some concerns regarding her immoral behaviour, unprofessional presentation style and poor grammar (court concerns). Lastly, it has also been outlined that the Probation officer turned to be emotional and started to behave unethical while the lawyer was posing interruptive and complex questions concerning the offender’s case" (Moloi, 2000 Daily Sun, p1).

Question 1

Evaluating the intervention strategies of Probation officers in the above case in relation to services delivery. In your argument, highlight the social workers' responsibility to the profession as per professional code of ethics.  

(25 marks)
Question 2
There are postulations that the South African justice system always caters for a small portion of victims and the lion’s share goes to the offender when working with victim-offender cases. Critically discuss this statement in relation to the principles of punishment. (25 marks)

Question 3
“The Individualisation of criminal sentencing is an indication of good practice”
Critically discuss the validity of this statement. (25 marks)

Question 4
“Even though he killed her there was no need for such a punishment in blood related siblings” (Zandi)
The above is the sentiments from a family member. (A) How would you address the issue of punishment with both the family and the community at large? (15 marks)
B) Using the Criminal Procedure Amended Act 4 of 2017 address individuals, groups, families and communities issues of punishment. (10 marks)

SECTION B
Question 1

(A) Discuss the term restorative justice. (5 marks)
(B) Critically discuss the role of a probation officer as an expert witness (20 marks)

Question 2
Critically discuss five sentencing options and give practical examples. (25 marks)

Question 3
Critically analyse the treatment and prevention of substance abuse by youth as stipulated in the Substance Abuse Act 70 of 2008. (25 marks)