The study course “Introduction to Special Needs Education” – a step towards teacher education for inclusive education

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Introduction

- Changing attitudes
- Possibility to improve the basic knowledge
- Opportunity to form skills to act according to the situation and taking into account needs of every child
Materials and methods

• Questionnaires
  – What do you know about children with special educational needs?
  – Can you name some special schools in your neighbourhood?
  – What are your expectations when studying the course “Introduction to Special Needs Education”?
  – Have you been in touch with disabled people; what were your emotions and feelings?
Results

Previous knowledge

Questions to answer
Materials and methods

• Questionnaires
  – What did you gain when studying the course “Introduction to Special Needs Education”?
  – Has your attitude changed towards the people with special educational needs?
Results

The change of attitudes

Questions to answer
Some student’s expressions and answers for illustration

• “In my everyday life I’m not thinking about these people. I wanted to avoid such questions and didn’t think about it, but after this course I have an interest about the possibilities of solving these questions. I’m ready to pay attention to them what I couldn’t do before.”
Some student’s expressions and answers for illustration

• “My attitude has changed. I started to appreciate everything a man has not to complain about nonexisting things.”

• “I have learned not to be afraid of these people with special educational needs.”
Some student’s expressions and answers for illustration

• “I had no information about these problems. Now I will be able to react adequately when meeting or talking to such people.”

• “My attitude has changed because my knowledge is deeper and understanding is better, empathy has been formed.”
Some student’s expressions and answers for illustration

- “Earlier I didn’t pay attention to such people at all, but now I see them every day and I think can better understand their position.”
- “I was afraid of people with special educational needs, but now I try to manage my fear and I can do it because I have information and courage not to step aside.”
Some student’s expressions and answers for illustration

• “I have always been understanding. My mother has told about such people with special educational needs, but now I will be able to help them in school.”

• “I hadn’t thought about these problems before, but now I want to fight the stereotypes and will learn to think about people with special educational needs as everyone in our society.”
Some student’s expressions and answers for illustration

- “Theoretically I’m ready to meet such people, I know their peculiarities, but in practice it is different.”
- “The attitude has changed, but it is not easy because of stereotypes which existed for so many years. Understanding + theory + literature + practical skills and it will be much more easier to meet such problems.”
Some student’s expressions and answers for illustration

• “I have understood that people with special educational needs don’t need pity, they must be treated like anyone else, may be they don’t feel being different.”

• “Changes are not so great because I have friends with special educational needs, but I now better understand them.”
Some student’s expressions and answers for illustration

• “Before lectures and especially seminars I thought little about such problems, now I understand that these people are not useful in our society, they can learn, live, but we must accept their needs.”

• “The attitude now is better, I feel that there is no need to be sorry, because the world is for all of us. The God has taken something to give something else.”
Thank You!