

#### DSW Programs: A Brief History Michael C. LaSala, Ph.D., LCSW,

Director DSW Program
Associate Professor

mlasala@ssw.rutgers.edu



#### **Edwards, Rittner, & Holmes**

- Task Force on Advanced Clinical Practice recommended by GADE and convened by CSWE
- The Doctorate in Social Work (DSW)
   Degree: Emergence of a New Practice
   Doctorate





#### 1920's







#### **Early Doctorates**

- Bryn Mawr & University of Chicago (Ph.D)
- 1940's DSW's
  - Catholic U. of America (converted from Ph.D.)
  - U. of Pennsylvania
  - Smith College





# 20 New Doctoral Programs 1965-1975







# **By early 1970**

- Over half offered DSW degrees
- 2 offered both
- By 1975, programs were evenly split
- No real difference in course work





#### Late 1990's

- Most SW doctoral programs were PhD's.
- DSW all but disappears
- Smith, Barry, and NYU offered clinical Ph.D's
  - Eventually NYU and Barry became more research focused.





#### Resurgence of DSW

- Emergence of practice degrees in allied fields (e.g. psychology, nursing, physical therapy)
- Desire for peer recognition
- MSW students getting clinical doctorates in other fields (PsyD)
- Schools looking for revenue streams





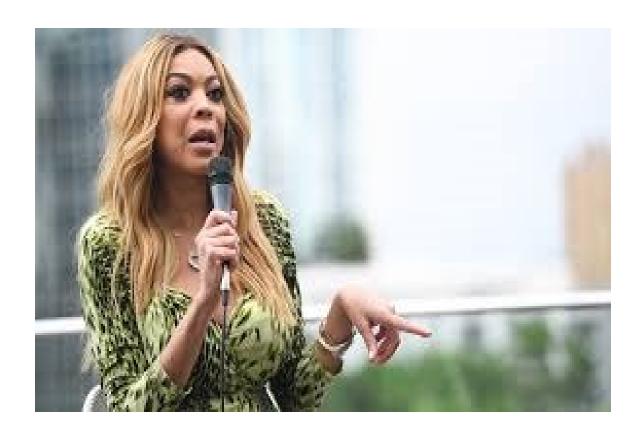
#### **Concerns About Resurgence**

- DSW programs not anchored to schools with MSW programs
- Schools not requiring an MSW for admission
  - DSW not grounded in principles of the profession.
- Quick growth in number
- Wide variation in program missions and goals
- 15 programs as of January
  - More in pipeline





# **Hot Topics!**







### Currently

- Defining Advanced Practice
  - The majority (8/15) have a clinical focus but not all
- Broad variety of foci and missions
- Distinguishing Ph.D. and DSW
- Distinguishing MSW from DSW
- Accreditation
- "Terminal degree" issue
- How can PhD and DSW programs/graduates work together?



# Rutgers (founded in 2013)

 The mission of the Doctorate of Social Work program is to transform experienced clinical social workers into leaders who promote individual, family, and community well-being and social justice in an increasingly diverse and global environment by training them to develop and disseminate clinical knowledge through peer-reviewed journal articles, national and international conference presentations, teaching, supervision, and innovative digital projects.



# **Rutgers continued**

- 1. Develop an area of expertise in the field of clinical social work.
- 2. Advance new scholarship in the field of clinical social work through the completion of a case study and qualitative research project.
- 3. Disseminate scholarship within an area of clinical social work through multiple modalities including the creation of a multi-media project, submission of original manuscripts to peer-reviewed journals, presenting at national and international conferences, supervision and teaching.



# **Rutgers continued**

- 45 full-time students
- 9 Weekend Residencies per Year
- Portfolio
  - Publishable Case Study
  - Publishable Small Qualitative Study
  - Multimedia Project
  - Example
- Graduates (71)
  - Some enter academic positions (9)
    - Tenure Track in Teaching Institutions
    - Non Tenure Track in Research Institutions
  - Most stay in current jobs
  - Most are interested in teaching



