

Human Rights, Bioethics and Community Reinsertion

Laura Rueda¹

¹*Universidad de Chile Escuela de Terapia Ocupacional, Santiago, Chile,* ²*Universidad de Chile CIEB, Santiago, Chile*

Bioethics as a discipline emerges from the systematic study of human behaviors in the areas of life sciences and health care. This present work begins with an analysis that bioethics can develop in the specific area of psychiatric implications in the transformation of life projects of persons and the difficult task of beginning a social revalidation of their rights, after a long period of treatment. In this context, it is possible to experience constant dependence on psych drugs from health centers, integration into unknown neighborhoods, living involuntarily with others, re-learning participation in civil society among many other adjustments.

Professionals that develop this psychiatric specialization are aware that oftentimes they must limit the liberty of such persons as a protection from themselves, family members or other close relations. For those that are around the affected person, witnessing loss of contact with reality and lack of self-control can cause great fear. Faced with this, health sectors in charge of medical attention during a psychiatric crisis, maintain an attitude of alertness and risk prevention, which often exceeds the necessary coverage of time of what generates the majority of disability, social isolation and loss of fundamental rights.

The work that we present seeks an interdisciplinary nexus between bioethics with health and social aspects that intersect in the validation, protection and reintegration of persons affected by psychiatric interventions. Given the amplitude of the theme, our analysis will be centered on experiences collected from a group of 15 adults, who have been under psychiatric control between 15 and 30 years, and although in possession of all their civil rights, for reasons of the intervention, have not been able to exercise them for a long time.

The purpose of this work is to gather the life experiences of these persons through in-depth interviews and discussion in focus groups. Both techniques seek to gather and select information that describes the radical changes in the life of the affected persons, the loss of their rights and their difficult recuperation.