Master’s Thesis Abstract

**Title:** Formation of the sociopsychological competency of a leader of a youth organisation.

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**Topicality:** There is evidence of contradiction between revitalisation of youth organisations in the Russian Federation and the insufficient availability of scientific and methodological literature on the problem of formation of the sociopsychological competency of a leader that supports their activity. The phenomenon of the sociopsychological competency of a leader resides in the integrated set of individual psychological traits and competencies that ensure efficacy of leadership.

**Goals:** The paper is aimed at in-depth study of the peculiarities of formation of a leader’s sociopsychological competency in a youth organisation.

**Tasks:** The following tasks were performed:

1. conduct the theoretical analysis of the phenomenon known as leader’s personality;
2. identify the principal psychological peculiarities of the sociopsychological competency of a leader;
3. disclose the psychological conditions of the development of the sociopsychological competency of a leader in a youth organisation;
4. prepare a diagnostic tool and carry out a diagnostic research of the sociopsychological competency of a leader;
5. design and test a programme of forming and developing the sociopsychological competency of a leader in a youth organisation;
6. study the sociopsychological competency after the programme has been implemented in order to gauge the efficiency of the programme implementation;

**Theoretical Value and Practical Applicability:** The peculiarities of the formation of the sociopsychological competency of a leader of a youth organisation have been theoretically analysed and substantiated. A theoretical model of sociopsychological competency has been elaborated which includes such criteria as cognitive, emotional and moral, motivational, activity orientated as well as the additional social intelligence criterion that we have identified and described. We have distinguished the psychological conditions that promote the formation of the sociopsychological competency of a leader. They comprise defining the level to which the sociopsychological competency is evolved, awareness of the necessity of further development of the sociopsychological competency and implementing relevant actions to ensure the formation of the components of the
sociopsychological competency.
The main theoretical and methodological propositions of the paper may provide a basis for designing further practical recommendations on improving the sociopsychological competency of a leader.
A complex of relevant diagnostic tools has been devised, that is aimed at evaluating the level of completion of every criterion of the sociopsychological competency. This allows for judgment of the level of completion of the sociopsychological competency as a whole.

The programme of forming the sociopsychological competency through building each component of the competency in question (cognitive, emotional and moral, behavioural, motivational and value and will orientated) has been conceived and tested. The programme has proved its efficiency and is especially enticing in the context of increasing the quality of professional activities among leaders of youth organisations.

**Thesis statements:**
1. The phenomenon of the sociopsychological competency of a youth organisation leader is a complex psychological matter that comprises the psychological features of a youth leader’s personality, such as strong leader qualities, a stable system of motives and stimuli for self-actualisation as a leader, an adequate self-esteem, good communication skills and abilities to influence and persuade, the ability to predict other people’s reactions and behaviours, an adequate strategy of behaviour in the situation of conflict and a high level of self-regulation. The levels of the enumerated indicators characterises the sociopsychological competency of a leader’s personality.
2. The psychological conditions that ensure the development of leaders’ sociopsychological competencies are as following: defining the level to which the sociopsychological competency is evolved, awareness of the necessity of further development of the sociopsychological competency and implementing relevant actions to ensure the formation of the components of the sociopsychological competency.
3. The design and implementation of a programme of forming the sociopsychological competency of a leader aimed at developing each of the components of the competency will increase the level of the sociopsychological competency of a leader in a youth organisation.

**Recommendations:**
- the theoretical and practical results of the research may be used by psychological services in educational institutions to enhance the potential for leadership among students;
- a programme of forming the sociopsychological competency of a leader through developing each of the components of the competency has been designed and implemented;
- the programme of forming the sociopsychological competency of a leader has been tested and proved efficient;
- the materials of the research may be included in such study programmes as Leadership Psychology and Pedagogical Psychology for psychology students.