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SOME ASPECTS OF IRISH LEGAL EDUCATION

Nowadays, the global community has got one more reason for its internal differently directed changes to give a rather quick reaction for its further existence and development in conditions of the fight against COVID-2019 [1, p. 439].

Irish legal education is under increasing pressure to reform and reinvent itself in the face of various challenges, especially those implied by the Bologna process. In line with two of the main priorities of the process, namely employability and student-centred learning, a growing number of Irish law faculties have incorporated, or are planning to incorporate, more practice-related components into the law curriculum and, in some cases, a fully fledged Clinical Legal Education programme. This is an important shift in the paradigm of legal education in Ireland which should be welcomed and encouraged by all stakeholders – students, academics, practitioners, judges and those involved in myriad capacities in the administration of justice [2, p. 1067].

The Law Society of Ireland is currently the sole provider of legal professional training in Ireland leading to qualification as a solicitor. Its educational policy provides that it must ensure students are prepared for professional practice and instil in them a lifelong commitment to high professional standards and behaviour. Yet, there is concern that professionalism is losing its value [3, p. 4].

The development of a more practice-oriented curriculum in Irish law schools should be welcomed and encouraged by all stakeholders – students, academics, practitioners, judges and those involved in myriad capacities in the administration of justice in Ireland. Such a curriculum will address many issues, such as: the necessity to prepare students for their professional careers and increase their chances at employability in a very difficult climate; the renewal of teaching and learning methods towards more student-centred learning; and the development of more transferable skills [2, p. 1092].

The variance in understanding reveals a lack of connection between the theory and practice i.e. a gap between the theory underpinning professionalism and the technical understanding of it. A gap in understanding also exists between the explicit teaching and assessment of professionalism and the implicit fostering of the notion. This lack of connection, together with the sometimes stark variances in perceptions among stakeholders, portrays a disjointed effort by those responsible for instilling professionalism in trainee

solicitors. It illustrates a lack of communication and co-ordination among stakeholders that needs to be addressed [3, p. 146].

There will be traditional teaching and learning still; a greater number of students will study law in context and law together with another discipline(s) - and even, in some places, useful language skills in multilingual Europe; and Clinical Legal Education of one guise or other will increasingly be a feature of law degree programmes. Development – and, at micro-level, developments – will necessarily and inevitably be shaped by changing times, technological advancement, economic realities (difficult for the foreseeable future), the Bologna context and endlessly competing philosophies about appropriate pedagogy and “best practices” in the legal academy [2, p. 1092].

It is very evident that the qualitatively different ways in which the stakeholders understand professionalism and how they understand the ways in which the fostering or teaching of professionalism occurs, has significant implications for professional legal education in Ireland and the profession [3, p. 146].

The functional issues which affect the everyday running of Higher Education as a system are at its core, as student and staff experiences during the lockdown have highlighted. What we suggest is that for Higher Education to remain relevant and to provide graduates with the skills they need to tackle the challenges they will face as a result of Covid-19, we must readjust the system so there is equal emphasis placed on making social, emotional and functional progress [4, p. 7-8].

In conclusion, we have to admit that even in pandemic extraordinary conditions, the prevention of human rights violations is a key part of the protective policy of every country in the world [5, p. 585]. This pandemic has allowed us to see the cracks within our everyday social structures [4, p. 7]. Thus, Irish legal education in the pandemic period is in its progressive development and prosperity.

Literature

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SOME ASPECTS OF MODERN NIGERIAN LAW

Laws have traditionally been a tool in the hands of a government to ensure compliance from the members of the society. Laws have coercive powers as they are backed by the courts and police [1, p. 3].

Prevention of human rights violations is a key part of the protective policy of every country in the world [2, p. 585].

Law and justice are two words that often go hand-in-hand. These words are often confusing for many people who believe that these words are the same or refer to the same thing. However, this is not true. Law is basically a set of rules that define what is right and what is wrong, while justice also takes into consideration the circumstances that surround the right of wrong at that time. While law is a system, justice is a concept that is the basis of this particular system. Law is what is in the statute books, or has been enacted or decreed by an accepted authority. Law will generally be enforced by some part of a society. Justice is a moral or ethical concept. Different people do not generally agree on what is just in a particular situation. People may consider that a particular law, or even an entire body of law, is unjust [1, p. 4].

Given the emerging lessons of the pandemic in Nigeria, entrenching a strong framework of human rights within proposed legislation is an imperative that cannot be ignored [3].

Laws must be obeyed by all. Laws set out standards, procedures and principles that must be followed. Justice is a concept that is based on equality, righteousness, ethics, morality, etc. This concept states that all individuals must be treated equal and the same. The term justice is a huge part of law and almost all aspects of law are based on this concept [1, p. 5].

In times of pandemic, the global community has got one more reason for its internal differently directed changes to give a rather quick reaction for its further existence and development in conditions of the fight against