ABSTRACT

Work has meaning for every human being. Blind people have difficulty getting a job. There are challenges and obstacles experienced by blind people such as difficulty in adapting to society and discrimination from the environment, making it difficult to interact fully and effectively. These challenges do not stop blind people from looking for work. With this, this study aims to understand the meaning of work for people with visual impairments who work as baristas at More Cafe Bandung. This study uses a phenomenological study to determine the meaning of work, what supports and hinders the meaning of blind work through George Herbert Mead's theory of symbolic interaction. The data collection technique used in this study was in-depth interviews with three key informants. The results showed that the meaning of blind barista works as a form of responsibility, self-actualization, and as a means of social interaction. The thing that supports the meaning of work for the visually impaired is self-motivation with encouragement from the closest person. Meanwhile, the environment becomes something that hinders the meaning of blind work with the rejection of the community for blind people.

Keywords: Meaning of Work, Visual Impairments, Symbolic Interaction