Part II
An Integrated Theory and Philosophy of Social Work, Sociometry, and Psychodrama

While social work has integrated group work into its field, sociometry and psychodrama have been mostly excluded from the social work profession. Until 2017, there were very few English publications on social work, sociometry, and psychodrama, though several earlier articles have been published on the topic in German language (including Müller, 1986, 2009; Ramsauer, 2007; Stimmer, 2004; Zwilling, 2004). There have been countless books, article, and courses within social work's history that focus on social work with groups. The social work philosophy has been infused into group work from the start (Giacomucci, 2019). This section intends to promote the same philosophical infusion of sociometry and psychodrama within social work philosophy and theory. In the following chapters, the theory and philosophical systems of sociometry and psychodrama will be presented separately, each with highlighted connections to social work.

The philosophy and theories of any given field are inevitably interlinked and overlap. The social work field and the triadic system of Jacob Moreno are no different. This section aims to uncover the unity between the Morenean philosophical system and social work philosophy—as well as the theoretical connections between social work, sociometry, and psychodrama. While theories shape how we practice and intentionally interact with clients, philosophy is the foundational conceptualization that guides our work. Philosophy provides a framework for defining problems while theories offer strategies for action and movement towards solutions to the problems (Himes & Schulenberg, 2013). Philosophy and theory directly inform all aspects of social work, sociometry, and psychodrama practice.

References

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