

Mentoring and Resilience

The case of the István Wáli Roma College for Advanced Studies of the Reformed Church

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Resilience

- Etymology: Word of Latin origin.
- “Resilire” means = back jumping (Békés 2002)
- Flexible resistance

In sociology of education

- Students with outstanding school performance despite their social disadvantages

The development-oriented resilient approach

- We are not (only) talking about difficulties, we are talking about the changes
- Creative learning through change
- New, more advanced equilibrium → development



Research method

- Motto: "WISZ for your goal!,"
- 2017 - WISZ Research Club starts
- Semi-structured interviews with 17 alumni students (target group)
- Transcribed audiotaped interviews & simple hand analysis (Creswell 2012)
- Coding process: Main dimensions according to resilience and mentoring

Lay mentors

- Parents: verbal support → springboard phenomenon (from deep to high)
- Other family members

Professional mentors

- Teachers
- Pastors
- Mentors



„Lay mentors” besides students

Parents:

„I was **always motivated at home**. This has happened, because, for example, **neither mother nor father could achieve the purpose they really wanted**, because they were not motivated by the home, so obviously, they are intending to achieve through their child, what they couldn't.” (economist)

Grandmother:

„One is that my grandmother taught me to read and write in kindergarten, and so I went to school. In that respect, I just remember her telling me that she has absolutely nothing in the world (she really did live on his 28,000 HUF pension), we won't be able to inherit anything from her, but she will give me the most important thing in the world. **Thus taught me how to read.**” (molecular biologist)

„Professional mentors” alongside students

University lecturer:

„A mentor was provided me, who I could contact at any time. And there was a teacher who was not a stranger and stood by me during my university years. I owe him a lot of help, preparation for exams and a lot of help in my thesis...” (judicial administrator)

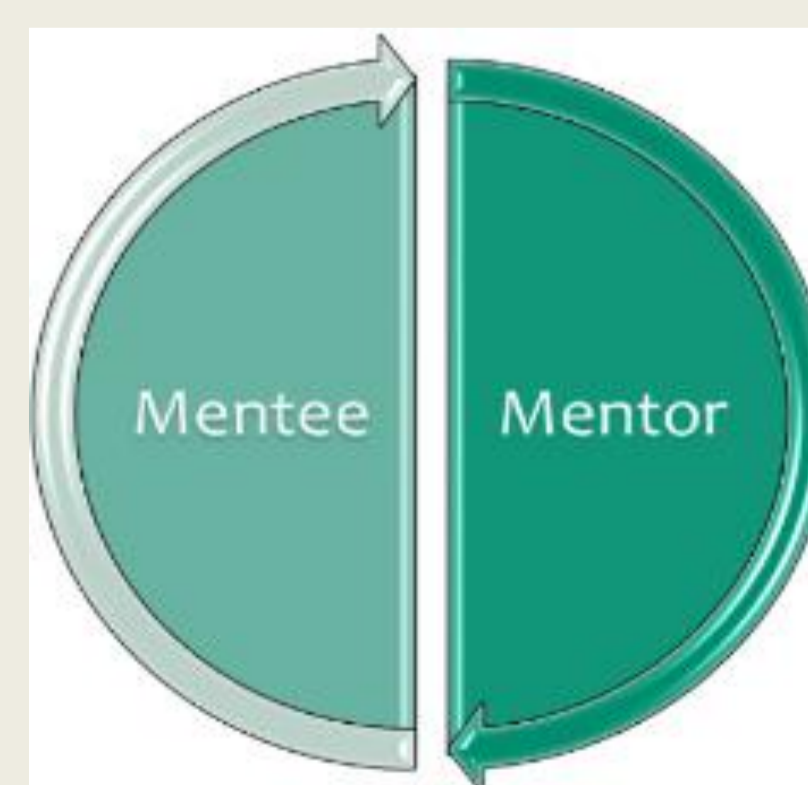
Students as mentors

Lay mentors

- They ran an individual career but help as role models

Professional mentors

- Who mentor at a professional level in different organizations



„I can't imagine stopping this, obviously dealing with Gypsies (...) **I'm out at the Gypsy Quarter**. After college, God has plagued me until I said, that I want to serve the poorest people, because this is where I'm needed them most.” (pastor)

“I had a very strong motivation to continue learning about my **brother's illness**. I definitely wanted to find a cure for it somehow.” (molecular biologist)