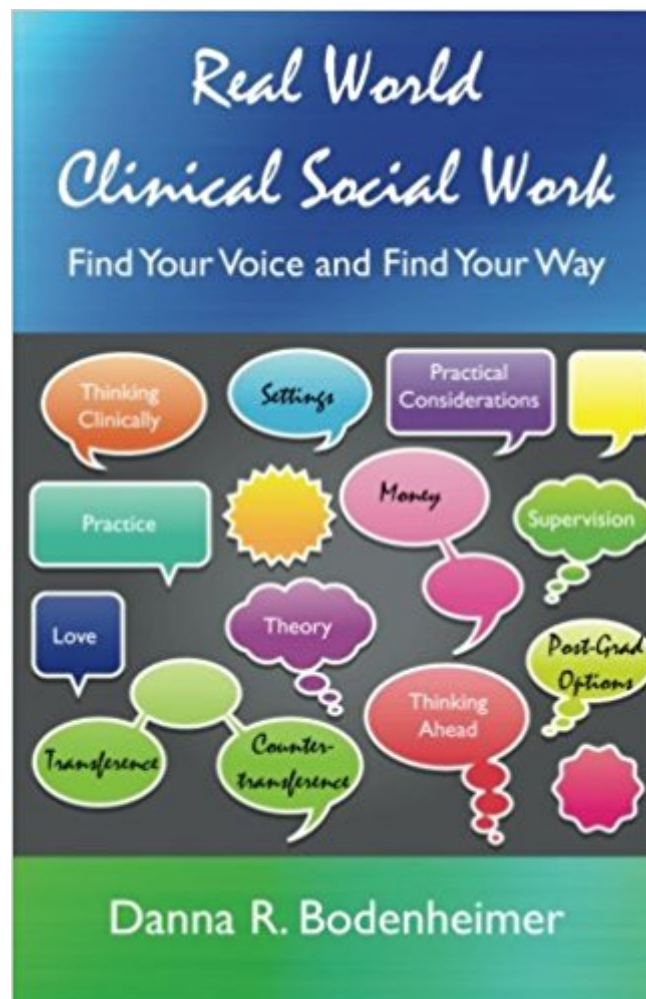


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# Real World Clinical Social Work: Find Your Voice And Find Your Way



## Synopsis

Social work graduate school is only the beginning of your preparation for professional life in the real world as a clinical social worker. Dr. Danna Bodenheimer serves as a mentor or a supportive supervisor as she shares practice wisdom on topics such as thinking clinically, developing a theoretical orientation, considering practice settings, and coping with money issues. She addresses the importance of supervision and how to use it wisely. A frank discussion on the important and rarely-talked-about issue of loving one's client is followed by a practical look at next steps—post-graduate options and finding your life's work in clinical social work. Altogether, *Real World Clinical Social Work* will serve to empower you as you find your own voice, your own way, and your own professional identity. What People Are Saying Reading Danna Bodenheimer's *Real World Clinical Social Work: Find Your Voice and Find Your Way* is like spending a weekend in a wonderful candid conversation with many of our favorite theorists! ....In language that is accessible, oftentimes metaphoric, and yet not at all simplistic, this book also introduces us to some of the clinical experiences of clients and therapists through an interweaving of their stories and theories. Just prior to presenting us with a thoughtful array of "post graduate options" for further learning and development, Bodenheimer explores the dimensions and dilemmas associated with still-controversial subjects like clients' transference and clinicians' countertransference, including feelings of love. Whether just entering the world of a master's-prepared social worker or having spent decades as an agency-based or private practitioner, an educator, or an administrator in the social services, spending time with *Real World Clinical Social Work* is a real gift to yourself and everyone you serve. Darlyne Bailey, Ph.D, ACSW, LISW Dean, Professor, and MSS Program Director Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, Bryn Mawr College As students graduate from our MSW program, they often express a mix of excitement and anticipation about beginning social work practice. They almost always wonder, "Am I ready to do this work?" Dr. Bodenheimer's book is a wonderful bridge for new graduates as they move from the support of graduate education and agency supervision to independent practitioners. Using years of teaching and astute practice experience, she provides continued education, support, and clinical insight. While grounded solidly in practice theory, Dr. Bodenheimer guides practitioners to find their own practice wisdom and style that is so essential to the social work profession. No doubt, new social workers will find this an accessible, practical primer...and a life raft for embarking on the profession! Anne Marcus Weiss, LSW, MSW Director of Field Education University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy & Practice Danna Bodenheimer's book is the clinical

supervisor you always wanted to have: brilliant yet approachable, professional yet personal, grounded and practical, yet steeped in theory, and challenging you to dig deeper. Jonathan B. Singer, Ph.D., LCSW Associate Professor of Social Work Loyola University Chicago Founder and Host, Social Work Podcast It is nearly impossible to begin a career as a budding clinical social worker without the accompaniment of a variably loud inner voice that says, “You have no idea what you are doing.” Dr. Bodenheimer befriends the beginning clinician with this incredibly personable and accessible book and says, “Sure, you do.” Dr. Bodenheimer uses herself as a vehicle for connection with the reader, and she speaks directly to that inner voice with compassion, understanding, and guidance. Cara Segal, Ph.D. Smith College School for Social Work, faculty Private Practitioner, Northampton, MA

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Dr. Danna Bodenheimer, LCSW, lives and works in Philadelphia, PA. After leaving New York City in 2004, she had no idea that love for another city was possible. But working and living as a social worker in Philadelphia has demonstrated, for her, the beauty of her city. Danna graduated from Smith College, earning her bachelor's degree in Women's Studies. After wholeheartedly planning on attending a Ph.D. program in psychology, going so far as to get her post-baccalaureate degree in psychology from Columbia University, Danna discovered the intricate beauty and possibility that social work offers. Turning down psychology programs to receive her MSW from Smith College, and returning to her educational roots in Northampton, Danna found her clinical self. After completing two internships in Philadelphia, one in a partial day treatment program

and another at a school for psychoanalysis, Danna began her career at the Tuttleman Counseling Center at Temple University. Three years later, while in the middle of her doctoral studies at the University of Pennsylvania, where she received her DSW, Danna began a teaching career and her own private practice. Having taught at Rutgers, Temple, and the University of Pennsylvania, Danna has settled into teaching at Bryn Mawr's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. She teaches clinical practice and classes on gender and sexuality. Danna is now the head of the Walnut Psychotherapy Center, a trauma-informed outpatient setting that she founded, specializing in the treatment of the LGBTQ population. Danna spends her time supervising, practicing psychotherapy, teaching, and consulting. She is the mother of two amazing young boys and lives in Philadelphia with her wife. She uses Philadelphia as a landscape to study issues of oppression, intersecting identities, and complex socioeconomic struggle. Danna received the 2011-2012 Award for Excellence in Teaching from the University of Pennsylvania. She was also selected as a fellow for the American Psychoanalytic Association for 2012-2013. She is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) in Pennsylvania.

Great read

Very interesting, well written and extremely useful from many perspectives. I sincerely recommend it!

Great book

This is a profound and yet simple view into why I became a social worker in the first place. The author dares to discuss topics that I've long been taught were taboo subjects, not to be discussed with colleagues for fear of judgment, like making a livable wage and becoming attached to our clients, even feeling love for them. This book is all at once a call to action, a love letter to the field of social work, and an acknowledgment that what you're doing for your clients right now is enough. We don't have to save the world, we are entitled to ask for the salary we need, and we work in a field that is so incredibly unique in its ability to recognize social injustice and work with people where they are to help them make their lives better. This will be a book I come back to again and again for these reminders, and share with others.

I just finished reading this book and highly recommend it to any clinical social worker at any level of

their career. I've been in the field for 4 years and though I wish I was able to read this book as a student, I found myself connecting to so many of the concepts that Dr. Bodenheimer illustrates. I am a first time clinical supervisor this year. This book helped me to articulate a lot of what I believe clinical social work to be which has ultimately helped me to be a better teacher. This would be a great gift for any recent social work graduate. I plan to get a copy for my student when she graduates. Dr. Bodenheimer includes real experiences from social workers in the field which gives readers realistic expectations for the field. While reading it I felt inspired, validated, and proud to be a clinical social worker!

I will be graduating with my MSW in about 8 weeks. This book has been a huge help in assisting me make decisions for my future practice. There is a lot of great information that helps ease the stresses of new graduates. One thing that really helped me with was choosing a job and making sure that it would work in the clinical arena and there was an explanation on how it works there. I highly recommend for anyone just getting started and wants some guidance.

I love that this book is read with the readers voice and personality very apparent. It discusses a wide variety of issues and topics that are overwhelming or concerning to new social workers. I am in the beginning of my clinical internship and seeking as much information as I can to supplement where I feel live supervision has fallen short. I feel this book was very much what I was needing.

I will enter grad school this summer and have gained a tremendous amount from this book! I look forward to applying what I've learned to practice. I highly recommend this book to any SW student!

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