



Psychology and Human Resources Helping Combat Human Trafficking

Arden Stehling and Gail E. Bentley, Ph.D.

Research Question

How do you train employees to spot possible human trafficking victims, and how do you help victims recover from their trauma?



Abstract

This interdisciplinary research investigates the problem of human trafficking and how psychology and human resources, might contribute to successful after-effects for survivors of trafficking. The research question is, how do you train employees to spot possible victims of human trafficking, and help them successfully heal? By examining research from two disciplinary perspectives the goal is to establish if training employees can contribute to helping human trafficking victims be rescued, and then find successful therapies for recovery. The Interdisciplinary Research Process was used as designed by Repko & Szostak (2017). The studies from human resources used qualitative methods to examine trainings used to combat identify human trafficking victims. Training was found to be successful in identifying victims. Psychology research found the use of different therapies such as narrative, cognitive, multisystemic, could help human trafficking survivors. Most research supports that successful reintegration can be achieved with therapy. These findings can contribute to addressing the growing problem of human trafficking.

Conflicts & Common Ground

Conflicts between psychology & human resources

- A conflict found between the discipline's psychology and human resources on the topic of human trafficking are that the psychology literature focuses on the after affects while human resources focuses on prevention. This represents a value laden conflict of focus. This conflict can be addressed with the technique of extension to increase the conceptual scope of research related to human trafficking. Both how to identify and how to address recovery for victims have equivalent value to address this complex issue (Repko & Szostak, 2017).

Repko's 10 Steps

Drawing On Disciplinary Insights

1. Define the problem or state the research question
2. Justify using an interdisciplinary approach
3. Identify relevant disciplines
4. Conduct the literature search
5. Develop adequacy in each relevant discipline
6. Analyze the problem and evaluate each insight or theory

Integrating Disciplinary Insights

7. Identify conflicts between insights and their sources
8. Create common ground between concepts and theories
9. Construct a more comprehensive understanding.
10. Reflect on, test, and communicate the understanding



Conclusion

The purpose of this paper was to integrate psychology and human resources to see if these disciplines could provide new insight on human trafficking. The interdisciplinary approach challenged bias because it is hard not to be biased on a horrific topic like human trafficking. Human trafficking is a very inhumane and heartbreaking problem in our world. An interdisciplinary approach has influenced perceptions of disciplinary expertise by having to analyze the different disciplines of psychology and human resources on this topic. The interdisciplinary approach has broadened understanding of this problem by providing different insights from different disciplines to explore different approaches to address the complex societal problem of human trafficking.

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