

Proposal Sample

Title: Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Among Domestic Violence Survivors

Program of Study: Professional Counseling

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Category: Theoretical Proposal

Abstract example: In the world of trauma-centered therapy when research grants and funding are parceled out, most resources are allotted to military personnel suffering from Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). However, there is a group of underserved trauma victims that need more funding for research: Domestic Violence Survivors (DVS). Even though research already conducted has shown that those suffering from domestic violence suffer from PTSD at the rate of 31%-84% (Wilson et. al, 2012), more research into the prevalence of PTSD among DVS is needed, as well as research into the specific needs of DVS in trauma treatment. Once the incidence of PTSD in DVS is quantified properly, researchers can then analyze their specific needs in treatment and discover gaps in mental healthcare which prevent survivors from accessing treatment in the first place. As DVS suffer from PTSD more than any other disorder, there is a true need in our scientific community (Gobin, et. al, 2013) to support this population. This research team proposes that women over the age of 18 who are DVS should be studied because they are among the most underserved population among those diagnosed with PTSD (Kaminer, et. al, 2018). By focusing on this population, researchers can lay the groundwork for

further study that will allow for experimentation in treatment, raise public consciousness about PTSD with DVS and explore certain risk factors. Some of these include the effect alcohol use, stress, and poverty (Rodriguez, et. al, 2008). This will allow for better identification and diagnosis of PTSD among these survivors.

Christian worldview integration: The parable of the Good Samaritan can be found in the Bible (Luke 10:25-37, KJV). In it, a man is badly beaten by robbers and left for dead. He is passed by two important individuals in the town. It is only when a lowly Samaritan stops, does he receive the help he needs. This parable teaches Christians to care for the sick and hurt. Domestic violence survivors are often abandoned by our society, shamed for using social programs to receive help, and berated for being involved in an abusive relationship in the first place. This is where Christians need to step up and live as the Bible teaches. Research that focuses DVS, their possible PTSD, and their treatment needs, is sorely needed to help these men, women, and children receive the diagnosis, care, and support they need. In Psalms 34:18 it says, “The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.” As Christians, this call to be Christ-like compels us to do exactly as the Lord does and stay near to those crushed in spirit and brokenhearted, as many, if not all, domestic violence survivors in fact are.