Project Description

This poster describes the effectiveness of a peer-constructed project involving multiple interviews. The interview data is analyzed, then compared and contrasted. The similarities and differences are accounted for through the lens of lifespan development. Pre-service graduate level counselors-in-training focus on human development across the lifespan to increase both multicultural competence and cross-cultural communication skills.

Developmental Interview and Group Presentation

Part One: The interviews –
- Each member of the group is required to interview one (1) person in the age range of the phase of life selected. This person must be a complete stranger and differ from the interviewee in various dimensions of identity. The group must profile interviewees of diverse identities and backgrounds.

Part Two: Elements of the presentation -
- Describe the developmental process of the people you interviewed, accounting for the similarities and differences among them.
- Highlight the developmental processes, concerns, characteristics, and topics that seem to be most relevant to counseling situations for your interviewees.
- Describe the research which illustrates the most effective counseling interventions and techniques for your developmental phase of life and appropriate for your interviewees.

Dimensions of Personal Identity

“A” Dimensions
- Age
- Culture
- Ethnicity
- Gender
- Language
- Physical/Mental Well Being
- Race
- Sexual Orientation
- Social Class

“B” Dimensions
- Education Background
- Geographic Location
- Hobbies/recreational
- Health Care Practices/Beliefs
- Religion/Spirituality
- Military Experience
- Relationship Status
- Work Experience

“C” Dimensions
- Historical Moments / Eras

Personal Reflections

Provide a narrative about your interview experience. Use this opportunity to consider the larger context, the meaning, and the implications of your interview experience. Process what you have been learning, how you are individually impacted by the experience, and how your counseling effectiveness may be enhanced by the experience. Be sure to examine cultural attitudes towards the interviewee, and his or her environment and lived experiences that may contribute to the overall impact of the experience.

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