Week 6 - Discussion 1

Proposal Completion Challenges and Review

Refer to *Practical research: Planning and design*and explain any weaknesses of your research proposal/project that you identified during the Week 1 Written Assignment. Describe how you addressed those weaknesses and elaborate on any other challenges that occurred while compiling your research project.

Introduction: Week 6

This week focuses on assessment and completion of the Final Project.

Students will review Week 1's reading regarding how to write a research proposal. Discussion will focus on reflection of the entire process, with consideration given to strengths and weaknesses as well as challenges encountered throughout the learning process. The course will culminate with submission of the completed research proposal.

Resources

Required Reference

Leedy, P.D. & Ormrod, J.E. (2016). *Practical research: Planning and design*(11th ed.). Retrieved from https://redshelf.com

* Chapter 5: Writing the Research Proposal

I have included my week 1 assignment and my professor comment for week 1 assignment

This is a good general topic, Comfort! With regards to content, you gave a good review of the research development process. That said, what is not clear is your actual research question. In several places you note it is about addiction (and in one place, specifically alcohol), but the actual question is not clear to me. You could focus on several things, such as: - What are the barriers/reasons that prevent people from getting the the addiction care they need? What types of interventions and program are most successful for certain groups (i.e. women, Veterans, etc.)? What are sustainable practices that addiction treatment centers can do to ensure availability and continue to meet the needs? What is the intersection between addiction and mental health (or disability, etc.)? So you need to develop a clear research question around this topic and that will help you move forward. Email me if you need more help with this. Please note: you will use this research focus area for your annotated bibliography in week 2. Lastly, keep practicing that APA formatting.

Week 1 assignment: Research Problem

**Introduction**

Social services are often a governmental project that aims at improving the lives of the particular targeted community. However, private and non-profit firms join in the good cause by creating effective organizations that promote equality in opportunities and build self-sufficient and strong communities. An example of a social services organization is the Faces and Voices of Recovery that deals with addicts who want to recover. Social services get established after problem identification. Every community has its share of problems, and a social service organization builds better communities. Therefore, people should join in the cause to help establish better communities that may improve people's living states either by financial support, volunteering, or working for the group.

**Research Question**

Settling on a research question is important as it dictates the method of study analysis, whether its qualitative or quantitative type of analysis. Mattick et al. (2018) put it simply that a research question is a query that the study sets out to answer. An ideal research question aims to prompt more questions that lead the study deeper for comprehension and allows the reader to acquire more insight. The research question should be relevant to the research problem at hand. Researchers or scientists deem the legitimacy of a research problem from the originality and uniqueness of the idea. The researchers should ensure that previous studies have not tackled the problem and have inquired from the relevant, targeted audience of its significance. There are several characteristics that the research problem possesses. For instance, the problem should be timely. The research should tackle an issue that currently affects people. The current needs of the people require current solutions for effectiveness and better justification of the problem. The other characteristic is specificity and clarity. Specification projects the direction that the research will take, and clarity will raise more questions on the study propelling it forward. The last characteristic is that the problem should be researchable. As a researcher, the problem should be solved using the research methods and designs to attain a possible solution.

**Subparts**

Tackling a social problem could be complex, depending on the demography of people and the targeted audience. For instance, using the research problem on addiction, one may decide to simplify it. The subparts that one would use are identifying the most abused drug, which in this case, is alcohol. Depending on the location of the area the researcher, the drug may vary to maybe cocaine or opioids. Identifying the drug narrows down the research and focuses on one group of addicts. The next subpart would be the causes of addiction, whereby the researcher might conclude the lack of employment, peer pressure, or stress as a coping mechanism. The following step would be to narrow it down to the factors that lead to addiction. For example, the availability of the drug in stores and stable finances would fund alcohol purchases. The last factor is the identification of an addict. It is possible that some people take high levels of alcohol but cannot qualify to be addicts. Addicts depend on alcohol for sanity and are normal. During the research, there will be a procedure to follow to identify a potential addict and already hooked.

**Determination**

According to Gowing et al. (2015), almost 5% of the world's adult population abuse alcohol, the percentage of men being higher than that of ladies. Alcohol Use Disorders is the leading factor of mortality in the US alone, which should be a cause of alarm. In determining the research problem, a few steps and criteria got met. There are a few steps to determine that the research problem is feasible for a study. These include identifying the variable that may affect possible solutions to the research problem as the first step. Variables such as alcoholism and factors leading comprise of the independent variable and the dependent variable, respectively. The second step is deciding how the variables could get controlled for the study. Most times, uncontrolled variables bring about indefinite answers resulting in no solutions. The third step is identifying the function relation between the variables tested. One is dependent on the other, so the symbiotic relationship should depict while collecting and analyzing data. The last step involves choosing the most critical variables which dictate the optimal solution from the research. Factors of alcoholism and addiction are strong characters for a variable that may bring about possible working solutions.

**Plan**

In every research, there are steps undertaken to influence the resulting solution. The steps include problem identification, data collection, data analysis, results, and discussion. The research problem identification is the addiction reduction in the US, which forms the research foundation. As a researcher, most studies related to the topic have quantitative results; using the qualitative results would bring about different results and make significant research changes. The sampling method would be random across different age brackets to broaden the spectrum of why people get addicted. According to Netting et al. (2008), I would use the logic model to attain a precise result from the interviews and questionnaires collected.

**Conclusion**

Every community has its share of problems, and a social service organization builds better communities. Therefore, people should join in the cause to help establish better communities that may improve people's living states either by financial support, volunteering, or working for the group. As a researcher, the problem should be solved using the research methods and designs to attain a possible solution.

References

Mattick, K., Johnston, J., & de la Croix, A. (2018). How to… write a good research question. The clinical teacher, 15(2), 104-108.

Gowing, L. R., Ali, R. L., Allsop, S., Marsden, J., Turf, E. E., West, R., & Witton, J. (2015). Global statistics on addictive behaviours: 2014 status report. Addiction, 110(6), 904-919.

Netting, E. F., O’Connor, M. K., & Fauri, D. P. (2008). Comparative Approaches to Program Planning (1st ed.). Hoboken , New Jersey: Wiley.