

Research Design

Student Name

Institution

Research design

The research design that will be utilized in this study is qualitative method owing to its efficiency with regards to sociological research (Maxwell, 2013). Qualitative research method allows the enhancement of data for a clear understanding of the phenomenon under the study. Additionally, the research method has been chosen due to its emphasis on meaning, attribution and, authenticity founded on the cultural implication and social reality of the participants, in addition to the thematic content evaluation (Taylor, Bogdan, & DeVault, 2015).

The research is based on the qualitative research design, as it aims at capturing the children's experience of domestic violence. The design will offer an insight into the attitudes, feelings, beliefs, and perceptions (Patton, 2014). Qualitative research aims at getting an enhanced comprehension of the subject matter, and is, therefore, proposed for studying individual's broader opinion of daily behaviors, in addition to explaining the way individuals conceptualize the humanity and construe implication from it (Taylor, Bogdan, & DeVault, 2015).

A qualitative and phenomenological approach will be assumed to maintain the originality of the data. Phenomenology attempts to illuminate the experience of the subject on the phenomenon (Creswell, 2013). The fundamental assumption of this approach is that research must be studied in a way that is modestly biased by the perception of the researcher (Patton, 2014). To ensure the authenticity of the phenomenon, biases will be set aside, as preconceptions, theoretical orientation, and prejudices, to permit self-revelation of the process (Maxwell, 2013). This is meant to diminish the subjective influence of the researcher on the phenomenon under the study. The data collected will be approached with sincerity to the implication that might materialize from participants' narratives.

Study Objectives and Hypotheses

In a nutshell, the existing research looks at the numerous outcomes in children and teenagers with a known connection to childhood adversity – a range of both externalizing and internalizing depression, delinquency, and behaviors. As such, it has been hypothesized that, exposure to violence will result in increased antisocial behaviors amongst children in the course of adolescence. Additionally, it was hypothesized that the consequences of exposure to domestic violence would be predominantly stronger for children who have been exposed severally. Lastly, it has been hypothesized that children who have been exposed singly to domestic violence are prone to be least emotionally connected with their parents in the course of adolescence and that the reduced parent-child attachments increase antisocial behavior amongst children exposed to domestic violence.

Participants

Study samples will be drawn from various shelter homes in Texas, and the age of the participants will range from 7 to 18 years. Given the sensitive nature of domestic violence, undertaking the study will be hard owing to the participants' reluctance to disclose the information (Li & Baker, 2012). Moreover, random sampling, despite its representative nature, might prove difficult due to the subject's sensitivity (Creswell, 2013). Lastly, the inclusion criteria will include children who have experienced domestic violence, openness, and willingness to express their sentiments.

Justification for participants' selection

Children are conscious of what occurs around them and are enthusiastic to share such experience with others (Patton, 2014). Despite the rare appearance of the subjective experience

of children facing domestic violence in the literature, it is deemed that the subjective narratives of children may offer a vital part of the general comprehension of the effects of domestic violence on children. This research will try to make the world of children experiencing domestic violence explicit.

Research instruments

The study will depend basically on individual semi-structured interviews to be performed in shelter homes. The open-ended questionnaires will allow participants to reply in their terms. Essentially, this will ascertain the hearing of their voices, as opposed to the opinions and preconceptions of researchers (Li & Baker, 2012). Further, the semi-structured interview will assist in keeping the discussion within the area of interest, enabling participants to articulate their stories freely and as original as possible. Interviews will take similar formats (Patton, 2014). Therefore, this will be done to elaborate the experience of the participants. The information will be audio-taped to prevent data loss.

All interviews will be conducted by the researcher to ascertain consistency and to afford the interviewer an opportunity of instituting a rapport with the participants and observing non-verbal communication (Li & Baker, 2012). The interview will take place in three parts with the first focusing on rapport building and participant demographic data collection, while the second part will concentrate on the participants' experience of domestic violence. The third part will focus on the opinions of the participants' and how they may be assisted.

Procedure

To facilitate the research, meetings with the heads of shelter homes will be arranged. The researcher will introduce them, explain the objectives of the study, and will take in aspects such

as methodology and ethical considerations. The children who have experienced domestic violence will then be identified. The head of the shelter home will be requested to give consent on behalf of the participants.

Ethical matters regarding confidentiality, anonymity, and the right to object and withdraw from the research at any phase devoid of fear of repercussions will also be discussed. Further, the consent to record the interview will be considered with the participants in the presence of the heads of the shelter homes (Taylor, Bogdan, & DeVault, 2015). Individual interviews will be performed to enable the researcher to perceive the non-verbal expressions of the participants. Lastly, after the interview, debriefing sessions with the participants will be conducted to tackle emotional distress aroused by the interview.

Data analysis

Chiefly, this study will employ a qualitative phenomenological viewpoint in analyzing the data to garner the essence of the participants' experience of domestic violence (Creswell, 2013). The phenomenologist interest will be to construe and explain the experience of the phenomenon to unearth and make out the real implications of the notion under the study explicitly. Below are the three steps that will be followed in the data analysis:

Transcription of audiotapes

To efficiently transcribe the audiotape, the researcher will listen to the taped interview repeatedly and attentively, as this is vital for the varied and full assessment of the data. The data will, therefore, be transcribed verbatim. As observed before, the researcher will suspend his individual presumptions and theories to hear the participants (Creswell, 2013). Hence, this will allow the researcher to have a deep and holistic listening. This kind of listening is essential as it

enables the grasping of the experience's essence. The interviews will be evaluated for latent and manifest implications. Such an analytical process will enable the researcher to explore the participants' world and comprehend it from their standpoints.

Listening to the interviews for a sense of whole

The transcribed information will be re-read to familiarize him (the researcher) with the gathered data. This will allow a holistic picture of participants' domestic violence experience to materialize. The analysis will follow two principles derived from the field of hermeneutics, namely, hermeneutic circle and prior-understanding (Li & Baker, 2012). Prior comprehension will entail the researcher's consciousness regarding assumptions on the phenomena.

Unitizing data

This phase will entail the assigning of meaning to the transcripts through color-coding of phrases and words. Conventionally, this is called unitization and is intended to contextualize the participants for the comprehension of their narratives (Maxwell, 2013). It will also assist in reducing extensive narratives to convenient units. The natural meaning units will be derived from an expression in the participants' stories likely to make sense on their own. Two kinds of themes will emerge during this stage, namely, unique ideas and common themes. Common themes refer to themes in which natural meaning units derived from divergent participants articulate comparable experiences. Consequently, unique ideas refer to the single participants' versions.

Ethical Considerations

As mentioned before, the consent to perform this study will be sought from the heads of the shelter homes. A meeting with the head of the shelter home will be held to discuss the

objective and advantages of the study. The function of the leaders of the shelter homes in granting authority and accessing the study participants will also be considered. Consent forms detailing the researcher's name, research objectives, and the study inclusion criteria will be given to the heads of the shelter homes.

Moreover, the consent forms will also state that the data gathered will be kept anonymous and private. Thus, participants will be referred to using numbers, e.g. P1. Consequently, this will be followed by a meeting with the participants, with the above information being discussed with them. It will be stressed, that participation is voluntary and that the participants are free to withdraw at any phase without repercussions. Some arrangements will be made to refer emotionally, distressed, and traumatized participants to children's mental health hospital in the city for psychological interventions. Such conditions will be explained to the participants and the social workers.

Preservation of privacy, as well as the interviewer's abilities as a counselor will help in ascertaining that the participants will not suffer from psychological trauma during participation. In the end, a debriefing session will be held for the study participants to enable them consolidate their solutions and coping strategies. Potential psychological challenges will be acknowledged and tackled at this phase. Anger management will also be discussed to assist the participants with the bottled up anger.

References

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