

Correctional Officers and Workplace Adversity: Identifying Interpersonal, Cognitive, and
Behavioral Response Tendencies

Student's Name

Institution

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Type of research and Sampling Procedures

The selected article is the qualitative research by Trouson and Pfeifer (2017). This type of research helped to actively use the officers' practical expertise in order to "establish a set of officer-endorsed response tendencies" (Trouson & Pfeifer, 2017). Qualitative research is appropriate for this kind of research as it helps understand the motivations, opinions, and even the reasons why officers respond the way they do to workplace adversity. This kind of research helps to not only understand but also uncover trends followed by these officers in terms of thoughts and also their opinions, making it easier to delve deeper into the problem. The article uses a mixed method design comprising of focus groups and individual semi-structured interviews. The research used purposive sampling technique. Purposive sampling is a sampling technique whereby participants are chosen based on their knowledge about the study (Palinkas et al, 2015). Participants are chosen according to the study needs. If an applicant does not meet the required criteria, then they are rejected. All participants allowed to take part in the research were Australian correctional officers. All participants were in active service, either in medium or maximum security facilities. The officers had direct daily contact with inmates (Trouson & Pfeifer, 2017).

Advantages, Disadvantages, and Appropriateness of Sampling Method

Purposive sampling is flexible enough, making it easier for researchers to save on time and money as they collect data (Glen, 2015). This kind of sampling allows one to meet multiple needs without changing the focal point. In this particular study, participants are chosen for a

specific need. This means that every participant has been chosen because they fit the criteria needed for the study, ensuring that no irrelevant participants are included in the study. Since there are no irrelevant subjects, it is easier to get accurate results. This is especially so if the researchers are unbiased and have good observation skills. This sampling method is not appropriate for a study that involves a large sample and it is Impossible to calculate sampling error Since purposive sampling is a type of non-probability sampling, it is not possible to calculate sampling error since sampling error is based on mathematical concepts. Purposive sampling was quite appropriate for this kind of study. This is because the researchers were able to involve participants fitting in their criteria. All participants chosen had daily experience with inmates. This made it possible for the researchers to get all their research questions answered appropriately.

References

- Palinkas, L. A., Horwitz, S. M., Green, C. A., Wisdom, J. P., Duan, N., & Hoagwood, K. (2015). Purposeful Sampling for Qualitative Data Collection and Analysis in Mixed Method Implementation Research. *Administration and policy in mental health*, 42(5), 533–544. doi:10.1007/s10488-013-0528-y
- Trouson, J., S. & Pfeifer, J., E. (2017). Correctional Officers and Workplace Adversity: Identifying Interpersonal, Cognitive, and Behavioral Response Tendencies. *Journal of correctional health care*, 23(4), 437-448. Doi: 10.1177/1078345817720923