

AN INVESTIGATION OF THE ROLES OF TRAINERS WORKING WITH ADULTS IN TERMS OF TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING THEORY

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Abstract

The purpose of the study is to analyze the “trainer roles” in terms of the perceptions of participant adults and the states of realizing transformation in the participants on the basis of transformative learning theory. Mixed research model has been preferred for this research including both quantitative and qualitative methods. The data collection tools are both a demographic variables questionnaire and the “Learning Activities Survey.”

The study group is comprised of 217 adults who participated courses in 2015 organized by six universities and three public institutions in Istanbul. Descriptive statistics and chi-square test of independence have been applied for analyzing the obtained quantitative data. For analyzing the qualitative data the content analysis method have been applied. According to the research results, 25.3 % of adults experienced transformation depending on the training program they participated. It can be suggested that adult trainers should update training contents on the basis of current learning theories.

Keywords: Trainer roles, adult training, changes in adult behavior, transformative learning.