A study on Social Workers' Perception on working with survivors of childhood trauma and its relationship with their personal traits

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Abstract

Working with adult survivors of trauma was said to be one of the difficult works to clinical practitioners (Cunningham, 2003). When working with the childhood trauma survivors, clinicians would come across different challenges and frustrations. The goals of this study were to understanding the perception of clinicians on working with childhood trauma survivors and the relationship between personal traits and perception on working with childhood trauma survivors.

Method: The Perception on working with childhood trauma survivors scale (WCTSS) was constructed and validated. There were 131 participants joining the survey. The conceptual framework with 3 levels of factors (namely, external level with professional experiences, the internal proximate level with relational styles and the internal distal level with sense of self and early relational experiences) contributing to the perception on the trauma work was developed.

Results: The psychometric properties of the WCTSS was proved with internal consistency with 2 factors loaded. The WCTSS was found to be correlated with the trauma work training, ECR-S avoidance, perspective taking and the sense of self etc.