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EMOTIONAL EXHAUSTION AMONG SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS

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Emotional exhaustion is a critical component in burnout that can impact the emotional health and well-being of school mental health providers. There is a strong relationship between emotional exhaustion and job dissatisfaction (Ahmadpanah, Torabian, Dastore, Jahangard & Haghighi, 2015; Gkorezis, Petridou & Krouklidou, 2015; Maslach & Jackson, 1981; Mackoniené & Norvilė, 2012). Until this current study, burnout had not been examined among school psychologists in the United States since the early 2000's; but it was examined in Lithuania in 2012. School psychologists are often the only mental health provided within a school (NASP, 2011). School psychologists have experienced enhanced expansive roles beyond to traditional assessment role (U.S. Department of Education, 2004). This expansion of roles, coupled within a national shortage of school psychologists and increased accountability, impacts school psychologists experiences of job satisfaction and burnout. This session will include a discussion of burnout, specifically emotional exhaustion among school psychologist based on the results of a recent study. The Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI) is one of the most widely used measures of burnout. The MBI-Educators Survey was used to identify levels of emotional exhaustion among school psychologists in one state in the United States. School psychologists were found to be experiencing moderate levels of emotional exhaustion (Kucer, 2018). A practical implication for the need for an organizational intervention will be discussed.

BIOGRAPHY

Priscilla Kucer completed her undergraduate studies at University of the West Indies in Barbados before completing her Masters in Psychology and Specialist in School Psychology at Nova Southeastern University in the United States. She completed her Doctor of Philosophy in General Education with an Emphasis in Industrial and Organizational Psychology at Grand Canyon University. She is an Adjunct Faculty for Alliant International University in the Master of Education School Psychology Program. She has worked in Florida, Washington, California and the Cayman Islands. Her area of interest includes burnout, job satisfaction, clinical supervision, cultural competence, equity, disproportionality, inclusive education and classroom management.

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