Transformative Learning and Adult Education

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Professor

Dr. Sara Reichard

Assignment #1 – Course Essential Elements

1. Select One (1) Core Essential Element from the Syllabus Outline:

a. Weekend Residency: Create a 350-word original discussion paper (with cited

sources) during the week of the residency. Be prepared to discuss and engage

with other students during the live sessions. Post this document in DIAL.

b. Professor will check for quality of content and word-count requirements. Grade

assigned will be Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

Andragogy is a term coined by German educator Alexander Cap that means leader of men (Finlay). This term applies to adult learning in the same respect pedagogy applies to adolescent learning. This is my first time ever coming in contact with the word. I am a teacher by profession so I am very familiar with the concept of pedagogy and its inner workings but andragogy is a new concept altogether. As I was listening to the assigned videos I found myself nodding in agreement when one of the speakers stated that adults need to know how the outcome of learning applies to them before they will buy into it. This led me to thinking about andragogy in terms of equitable mental health practices for African American men. To have a progressive conversation and ideally better practices would require both an “unlearning” and learning. While this would be beneficial to the American society as a whole, the concept of andragogy suggests a number of obstacles. For example, if it means leader of men, then who and how will the topic of equitable mental health practices for black men be handled? Is there a tangible buy-in for parties who are not African American?

It begs a more indepth exploration of transformative learning. Transformative learning I believe would take this from being a societal dilemma to a personal calling. I am eager to learn how does Christianity and purpose tie to into andragogy if it does at all. My guess would is that it whomever is the leader of men in a particular topic it required a level of transformative learning for them to adopt a new perspective or understanding on a topic. It is my aim to learn more about andragogy and how that applies or can be applied to formulating equitable mental health practices for African American men.

WORKS CITED

finlay, janet. (2010, May 17). *Andragogy (Adult Learning)*. YouTube.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLoPiHUZbEw