LDR 815-32 Transforming People Problems

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Date: January 26, 2025

Professor

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Assignment #1 – Core Essential Elements

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

a. 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).

Communication and conflict resolution are necessary components of healthy relationships. The definition of communication is the process of exchanging information between individuals or groups. As such, everything perceived as meaningful is reducible to the message; thus, effective communication means merely finding the right message (Macke, 2024). Conflict resolution can be defined as the process that two or more parties use to find a peaceful resolution. However, sometimes, in conflict resolution, parties will agree to disagree. For decades, the dominant curricular theme of undergraduate academic work in Communication has been, by and large, toward the achievement of communication competency or communicative effectiveness (Macke, 2024).

Communication and conflict resolution are necessary in law enforcement to maintain public safety, build community trust, and ensure effective agency operations. This process begins on the first day of the academy and continues throughout our careers. Unlike in the public and most professions, communication and conflict resolution in law enforcement can be life-or-death situations. Some key techniques that can foster a positive outcome when communicating with others are active listening, show empathy, being clear and concise, and being aware of cultural considerations.

In their daily work, police officers are often confronted with complex situations such as the usage of a shooting weapon by suspects, the involvement with vulnerable groups such as children, and factors such as stress and time pressure can pose great challenges to police officers (Murtinger et al., 2024). Therefore, adequate communication skills are an essential safety resource for police officers and can significantly reduce the risk for police officers during their missions (Murtinger et al., 2024). Inadequate or misused communication can trigger serious conflicts (Murtinger et al., 2024). Police response teams are often the first on the scene and are confronted with complex and potentially dangerous situations with a high potential for conflict. The ability to communicate in a targeted manner can have a far-reaching influence on the quality and outcome of operations (Murtinger et al., 2024).

The Bible provides instructions for successfully resolving communication and conflict. Ephesians 4:25 encourages believers to speak truthfully to their neighbor in all communications (*NIV Bible*, 2011). James 1:19 advises believers to be quick to listen and slow to speak and become angry, promoting the idea that effective communication starts with active listening (*NIV Bible*, 2011).

Law enforcement agencies can build stronger community relationships by prioritizing effective communication and conflict resolution. Remembering the importance of God’s word and aligning communication conflict resolution with our faith will develop healthier relationships.

# References

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Murtinger, M., Jakob Carl Uhl, Lisa Maria Atzmüller, Regal, G., & Roither, M. (2024).

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