Examining the Relationship between Emotional Intelligence, Employee Engagement, and Burnout: A Comparison of Administrative Officers, Criminal Investigators and Patrol Officers in Law Enforcement

by

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Abstract

Law enforcement has evolved from ineffective watch groups to police agencies that incorporate advanced technology and problem-solving strategies (Herder, 2013; Johnson, 1981). However, for law enforcement officers to effectively protect and serve the public, they should manage their emotions and understand others' emotions and use this knowledge to guide their thinking, action, and decision-making. This study examined the relationship among administrative officers, criminal investigators, and patrol officers' emotional intelligence traits as measured by the Assessing Emotions (SSEIT) Scale (Schutte, Malouff, & Bhullar, 2009). The study also explored the relationship between engagement as measured by the Work and Wellbeing Survey (UWES) and burnout as measured by the Professional Quality of Life Scale (PROQOL) Version 5 (2009). A sample population of 335 law enforcement professionals in the United States participated in the study. Analyses of the data were conducted using multiple linear regressions. Results found that age acted as a predictor of EI, burnout, and engagement. This study indicated that age and emotional intelligence influenced employee engagement and burnout. Additionally, the results indicated that class had a moderation effect on emotional intelligence and its relationship to employee engagement and burnout. Burnout is a risk for the law enforcement profession, and there is a need to implement protective factors to decrease the risk of burnout within members of the law enforcement profession.

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List of Abbreviations

AEA – Adult Education Act

COP – Community-Oriented Policing

EI/EQ – Emotional Intelligence/Quotient

ESI – Emotional/Social Intelligence

FBI – Federal Bureau of Investigations

FTO – Field Training Officer

GED – General Educational Development

IRB - Internal Review Board

IRS – Internal Revenue Service

KKK – Ku Klux Klan

POP – Problem-Oriented Policing

PROQOL – Professional Quality of Life Scale (version 5)

PTSD – Post-traumatic Stress Disorder

SSEIT – Schutte Self-Report Emotional Intelligence Test

SPSS – Statistical Package for Social Sciences

UWES – Utrecht Work Engagement Scale

VUCA – Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity

WWII – World War Two

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

Background

For decades, police work has been characterized as stressful and emotionally laborious (Bano & Talib, 2017; Nisar, Rasheed, & Qiang, 2018; Violanti & Aron, 1995). Nevertheless, over the past two decades, law enforcement personnel have faced increased scrutiny in the profession. Thus, law enforcement has experienced a pivotal shift in overall public perception of roles, job responsibilities, and public expectations. Increased concern regarding their role and behaviors has brought greater awareness to law enforcement actions, particularly in situations where discretionary use of force involving law enforcement personnel and the public has resulted in death or severe injury to an officer or the contacted individual (Hall, Hall & Perry, 2016).

As a profession, law enforcement has been fraught with objectionable indiscretions, such as corruption, bias, misrepresentation, questionable use of force, and misconduct (Johnson, 1981). These issues have been acknowledged as contentious among law enforcement officials and scholars and the constituents served by law enforcement. Subsequently, the criminal justice system's gatekeepers have prescribed a more proactive approach to changing the profession's perception. Continuous advocating law enforcement personnel to receive substantially targeted training could support more positive interactions, reducing the number of negatively perceived encounters or unfavorable outcomes (Poitras, 2017; Marenin, 2004).

Several initiatives have been designed and implemented as proactive measures to counter variables such as negative rapport, increased crime, unsolved criminal offenses, and discriminatory practices in the communities where law enforcement entities serve (Marenin, 2004). While these initiatives have provided relief in acknowledging the concerns, they have

been cited as only short-term solutions that do not adequately address this highly complex profession's nature and requirements. To this effect, there is no one model, which could serve as a panacea for the multitude of issues that plague the profession in this new millennium.

However, law enforcement officials and scholars are still focused on identifying a multi-faceted approach to remedy the challenges faced by today's law enforcement organizations and personnel. At the forefront of these efforts is the inclusion of andragogical concepts, which begin during initial, recruit training in the academy and must continue to be reinforced in all subsequent in-service training (Birzer, 2003; Chan, 2010).

In the 1980s and 1990s, law enforcement agencies adopted what was called the community-oriented policing (COP) and problem-oriented policing (POP) practices to serve better their constituents (Gill, Weisburd, Bennet, Telep & Vitter, 2014). The concept of COP derived from the foundational tenets that the most efficient and effective way for police to manage disorder and crime was by building relationships with those that reside in the community (White & Escobar, 2008). Therefore, due to the rapport built through these relationships, the officers would be given more access to information from the community generating a greater likelihood to solve or detour crime successfully.

POP's concept is based on the premise that an officer should recognize an issue is prevalent, discover the underlying circumstances, which is the actual cause of an issue, and then employ critical thinking skills to address the underlying issue. One caveat is that these programs' successful implementation depends on several variables, with one of the most substantive being training. According to White and Escobar (2008), training is vital to familiarize officers with the program's basic constructs and obtain their support. They further concluded that community and problem-oriented policing would most likely be a base for law enforcement's future success.

Therefore, proper preparation of law enforcement training facilitators incongruent methods with self-directed learning and critical thinking is essential.

Basic police training has adopted a rigorous learning approach, which is plausibly due to an ongoing emphasis on accountability and the need to have legal verification of certifications and training. Many of the classes are designed by pedagogical principles to include traditional lecture-based classes; however, some classes such as firearms training, defensive tactics, and first aid are typically hands-on type training, a much more andragogical approach (Hundersmarck, 2009). The new officers and recruits are often assigned to their agencies Field Training Officer (FTO) upon completion of a basic police academy.

There is a significant environmental difference from the recruits learning experience at the academy versus in the field. The FTO program is similar to an apprenticeship program in that the recruit is allowed to gradually adjust to the duties and responsibilities under a mentor's, the FTO, guidance. Unfortunately, the recruits' experiences and knowledge gained at the academy may be overlooked by the FTO's. An FTO may even dismiss the recruits' academy learning experience as being irrelevant to actual field experience policing (Hundersmarck, 2009).

At times law enforcement officers are required to make crucial decisions at a moment's notice. Arguably, an increasing number of these decisions are held to ridicule, unattainable standards, and excessive scrutiny levels and then reviewed in a public forum (such as the media or online social mediums). The men and women in the law enforcement profession must be provided with the proper training that will enhance their critical thinking skills and improve their chances of making sound decisions in the field.

Statement of the Problem

Law enforcement agencies across the United States have operated under scrutiny and ridicule for decades. The recent decline in positive public perception regarding law enforcement as a viable entity has urged law enforcement to reexamine general oversight of the profession and its practices. With changing perceptions and the evolution of the traditional policing model, there is an established need for highly trained personnel.

Despite focused efforts to amend the criminal justice doctrine provided during academy training, it is deficient in connecting content, field experiences, and other training. These practices are ill-equipped to answer the profession's needs that demand skills translatable to various non-textbook scenarios (Skinner & Hass, 2016). Identifying the critical skills and attitudes for a successful police organization is essential in the profession's growth and ensures that the personnel is equipped to meet the organization's standards.

In traditional policing, employee engagement is crucial and is even more so critical in community-oriented policing (Sudibjo & Sutarji, 2020). Recent studies have suggested a correlation between emotional intelligence and employee engagement in highly emotionally laborious occupations (Sudibjo & Sutarji, 2020). It has been determined that individuals consistently subjected to chronic workplace stressors that require extreme amounts of emotional labor often experience emotional exhaustion, a component of burnout (Maslach & Jackson, 1981). As other exhaustion dimensions occur surrounding work stressors, a psychological effect characterized by burnout is documented (Cherniss, 1980).

With studies linking emotional intelligence and employee engagement and associations between employee engagement and burnout established, a gap in the literature still exists to connect all three constructs, EI, engagement, and burnout, with law enforcement professionals.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study was to examine the relationship among administrative officers', criminal investigators' and patrol officers' emotional intelligence traits as measured by the Assessing Emotions (SSEIT) Scale (Schutte, Malouff, & Bhullar, 2009). The study also explored the relationship between engagement as measured by the Work and Well-being Survey (UWES). Finally, this study sought to examine burnout as measured by the Professional Quality of Life Scale (PROQOL) Version 5 (2009).

Numerous studies support the concepts of emotional intelligence, engagement, and burnout as the sole or correlating variable; however, there are limited studies wherein these three concepts are considered and are compared to these three distinct classifications in law enforcement (Aguilar, 2016; Burnette, 2006; Hawkins, 2001; Kurtz, 2008; Dantzker & Kubin, 1998; Brough & Frame, 2004). The concepts of emotional intelligence, engagement, and burnout and their relationship to law enforcement officers have been researched; however, there is limited research as to the correlation regarding these concepts between administrative officers, criminal investigators, and patrol officers. This study's findings may imply vetting during hiring processes and promotions, targeted in-service training, specialized assignments, disciplinary procedures, leadership methodology, descriptive analysis in performance evaluations, and retention.

One of the most significant challenges for law enforcement is recruiting, hiring, training, and retention. Law enforcement consistently encounters intrinsic and extrinsic stressors,

which can harm the organization's overall culture. Research and studies indicate that ineffective leadership practices of supervisors and lack of acknowledgment of the needs of individuals within an organization (Holton, Mitchell, Lee, & Eberly, 2008; Hom, Mitchell, Lee, & Griffith, 2012; Park & Shaw, 2013; Vance, 2006).

Research Questions

- 1. What demographic characteristics (e.g., gender, age, education level, and years of experience) are predictive of police officers a) emotional intelligence, b) employee engagement, and c) burnout?
- 2. After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does emotional intelligence predict a) engagement and b) burnout among police officers?
- 3. After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does police officer job classification (e.g., administrative, patrol, or criminal investigators) moderate the relationship between emotional intelligence and a) employee engagement, and b) burnout among police officers?

Significance of the Study

This study addresses the limited amount of research relating to law enforcement professionals' emotional intelligence levels and its comparison to employee engagement and burnout. This study contributes to the limited amount of literature addressing the relationship between law enforcement professionals' emotional intelligence, level of engagement, and burnout. This study's desired outcome was to determine the predictive demographic characteristics of police officers' emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout? Another result anticipated was determining whether emotional intelligence was a predictor of engagement and burnout among law enforcement professionals. Also, this study sought to

determine if job classification was a moderator for the relationship between police officer's emotional intelligence and employee engagement and burnout. Law enforcement leaders could make more informed organizational decisions regarding supervisor training focused on mental wellness, peer support, and other self-care initiatives. The latter is threatened by the apparent scarcity of literature on those constructs related to police in the United States). Therefore, a research need is imperative further to investigate these constructs for knowledge and advancement of scholarship.

Limitations of the Study

The current study has several limitations. One of these limitations is due to the use of self-reports. The limitation of self-reports is respondents are subject to reporting bias, specifically in the contexts of reporting false positive attributes. (Stewart, 2018). The internet and social media were used to recruit participants and administer the survey. Therefore, the researcher could not control environmental or physical factors, such as disturbances or technical issues.

Another possible limitation to this study was officer's perceptions of the research and limits to the design used for this study. The respondents may have questioned the use of the information collected and thus affected their participation rates or responses. It has been noted through many studies of policing that some officers are resistant to outsiders or non-police looking into their organization and policing in general (Belur, 2013). However, Belur (2013) stated the researcher's status also affects responses and rapport between them and the respondents. Therefore, in this study, the researcher needed to identify himself as a law enforcement officer, a non-outsider.

Definition of Terms

- Administrative Officers- Law enforcement officers in staff positions or administrative positions.
- 2. Adult Education In the broadest sense, Adult Education is any form of learning adults engage in beyond traditional K-12 schooling. Over the past decades, adult education's focus has changed considerably; the scope has grown from a constricted vocational skill focus to broader encompassing fields such as information technology (Imel, 2005). The primary sources of adult education are schools, colleges and universities, proprietary schools, and the government.
- 3. Andragogy- Learning is a continuous progression wherein we process and assimilate information. Teaching is a method wherein learning is the outcome of those lessons.
 Opposite from pedagogy, the term andragogy defines learners as the primary contributors in the teaching-learning transaction (Darkenwald & Merriam, 1982).
- 4. Burnout Chronic psychological syndrome is characterized by negative attitudes and behavior that evolve and relate to work.
- Criminal Investigator officers that gather criminal intelligence and evidence, investigates crimes, conducts interviews.
- 6. Emotional Intelligence Set of skills or abilities involved in the effective use of emotions in the reasoning process (Salovey & Mayer, 1990).
- 7. Jobs Satisfaction The feelings a worker has about the job concerning previous experiences, current expectations, or available alternatives.
- 8. Patrol Officer—uniformed officers, assigned to duties specific to routine traffic details, patrolling of assigned beats, and answers calls based on the assigned area.

- 9. The philosophy-The idea of this study of philosophy resides in the foundation that it can occur within and among any subject matter. The study of adult education and its principle elements grants the highest degree in academia of Doctor of Philosophy in a specific discipline. The latter is due to the investigation and in-depth examination of a particular topic in one's discipline (Stewart, 2018).
- 10. Self-Directed Learning- Self-directed learning is the transfer of learning from the instructor to the learner. Self-directed learning is how individuals take the initiative, diagnose their learning needs, formulate learning goals, identify human and material resources for learning, choose and implement appropriate learning strategies, and evaluate learning outcomes (Knowles, 1975).
- 11. Workforce Development-The premise that skills and training in the workplace should be identified and evaluated to cultivate a more diverse and thriving organization. The development could occur in various forms such as workshops, training plans, and skills training. Besides, growth must occur in workforce development. This growth may occur through educational methods, training, one-on-one interaction, peer evaluation, evaluations, and feedback summaries (Stewart, 2018).

Organization of the Study

This study is composed of five chapters. Chapter 1 introduces the study by offering the following material: general background information, statement of the problem, the study's purpose, research questions, the study's significance, limitations of the study, and definition of terms. Chapter 2 provides a review of the literature related to the history of law enforcement, andragogy, adult education, emotional intelligence, engagement, burnout, and the relevancy of the latter mentions concepts to law enforcement. Chapter 3 discloses the methods employed to

conduct the quantitative study, including the sample, instrumentation, and data analysis plan.

Chapter 4 details the study results, while Chapter 5 provides a discussion of the findings reported in chapter four and the limitations of the study. Additionally, Chapter 5 concludes with implications for practitioners and future research, and recommendations for further studies.

CHAPTER 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction

Chapter 1 presented the study by providing the over-all background information of the topic, statement of the problem, the purpose of the study, research questions, significance of the study, limitations, and a definition of terms. Chapter 2 delivers a literature review systematized into five key sections: police organizations, emotional intelligence (EI), engagement, burnout, and Andragogy's role in law enforcement training. This chapter offers an amalgamation of scholarly research to design and facilitate the current study.

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targeted in-service training, specialized assignments, disciplinary procedures, and descriptive analysis in performance evaluations.

Research Questions

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Police Organizations

Examining the history of policing in the United States is necessary and serves as a critical consideration when addressing how the profession has altered its purpose, duties, and structure over time. Law enforcement agencies have enabled the profession to evolve from ineffective watch groups to police agencies that incorporate advanced technology and problem-solving strategies (Herder, 2013; Johnson, 1981). The administration and training of police agencies can offer various complexities to include managing officers, different roles and their capacities held within an organization, and addressing a diverse number of specialized units (e.g., investigations, polygraphy, community service, crime scene processing, etc.). Since its inception, the law enforcement profession has evolved from a reactive organization to a proactive theory-based profession (Herder, 2013; Maguire, 2000). This evolution has occurred out of the necessity to

fulfill the needs of multiple constituents that depend upon and sometimes overwatch the agencies on a local, state, federal and international level. This oversight has become increasingly evident within the last several decades, wherein law enforcement has faced ridicule from the public regarding what they refer to as an omission of inappropriate training methods, recruitment, and official law enforcement representatives (Prenzler & Heyer, 2015).

The following subsections, which include a history of law enforcement, law enforcement agencies, law enforcement structure, police culture, and the police subculture, are offered as an overview beginning with Sir Robert Peel and London's English influence Metropolitan Police.

Subsequently, the section will also cover early law enforcement efforts in Colonial America concerning the social and political issues relevant to the police during that era. In conclusion, this section examines early police reform efforts and the tension between the police and their constituents.

History of Law Enforcement

The English system heavily influenced American policing, and in the early stages, citizens were responsible for law enforcement in their communities; this was referred to in England as *kin police* as citizens were responsible for the overwatch of their relatives (Paley, 2017; Spitzer, 1979; Uchida, 1990). In America, citizens formed watch groups that performed such duties as lighting streetlamps, running soup kitchens, locating lost children, and other various services. Policing in the United States began in the early colonies and mirrored the progress of policing in England, which consisted of two forms that were informal and communal, and the watch or private-for-profit policing (Uchida, 1990).

Between the mid-1600s and early 1700s, Boston, New York, and Philadelphia had operative night watches comprised of citizen volunteers whose primary objectives were to alert

of imminent threats of danger (Johnson, 1981). This practice proved to be an ineffective means for crime control for several reasons; however, one reason of particular interest identified the watchmen were rendered unfit for duty where they often slept and drank while on their shift. Also, some accounts suggest watchmen volunteered to elude military service, and others were selected as a form of punishment. Consequently, the patrol method was characteristically unsystematic and irregular (Walker, 1996). This practice of utilizing informal policing modalities continued until after 1783, as the end of the American Revolution was documented (Johnson, 1981).

In England, law enforcement's responsibility changed from citizen volunteers to groups of men who lived in the community, referred to as the frankpledge system (Ascoli, 1979; Morris, 1910). The frankpledge system was structured such that *tythings* (groups of 10) were grouped into hundreds, and the groups of hundreds were assembled into shires (Wang, 2015). The *shire reeve* or sheriff was chosen to oversee each *shire* and was responsible for the supervision of activities conducted by the *tythings* in each *shire* (Ascoli, 1979; Johnson, 1981; Paley, 2017; Wang, 2015). In America's early formative years, a similar system existed where constables, sheriffs, and citizen watch groups were responsible for policing the colonies (Walker, 1996).

In response to the rapid urbanization and industrial growth in London, Sir Robert Peel, Home Secretary of England, introduced the bill for Improving the Police and Near the Metropolis (Metropolis Police Act) in 1829. His efforts resulted in creating the London Metropolitan Police (Ascoli, 1979; Emsley, 2009; Paley, 2017). He believed that the primary function of the London Metropolitan Police was crime prevention, and in order to affect this function, police would have to work in a coordinated and centralized fashion to work in specific areas (beats) and be available to their constituents both night and day (Ascoli, 1979; Emsley,

2009). Peel is often referred to as the father of modern policing by scholars. Both past and current police officers assigned to the London Metropolitan Police Department are referred to as bobbies or peelers in honor of his efforts (Ascoli, 1979; Emsley, 2009).

It was essential to Sir Robert Peel that the London Metropolitan Police Department was viewed as a legitimate organization. To accomplish this task, he identified several principles he understood would lead to credibility with constituents (Ascoli, 1979; Emsley, 2009). The principles included that police must be under government control, have a para-military organizational structure, have a central headquarter accessible to the public, and the quality of recruits would further contribute to the organization's legitimacy (Emsley, 2009). Additionally, Peel thought it was important that officers received the proper training to be effective in their occupation and wear uniforms with badge numbers so that they could be readily identified by citizens (Emsley, 2009).

Colonial America also experienced an increase in population in the 1700s, with some of its cities receiving an influx of immigrant groups from various countries such as Germany, Ireland, and Italy (Uchida, 1997). Arguably, this increase in population contributed to the social disorder and the rise of social tensions. Albeit, racial and ethnic conflict was already a prominent issue in the northern and southern regions of the country before the arrival of the European immigrants (Gaines, Kappeler, and Vaughn, 1999; Turner, Giacopassi, & Vandiver, 2006).

Much of the literature that describes the early formation of policing focuses on the northern region of the country and fails to emphasize the southern region's events. More specifically, the slave patrols of the South, which first emerged in South Carolina during the early 1700s (Gaines, Kappeler, and Vaughn, 1999; Turner, Giacopassi, & Vandiver, 2006; Wrobleski & Hess, 2005). Slave patrols have been identified as the first publicly funded police

agencies in the southern region of Colonial America and were created to maintain control over the slave populations and white indentured servants. The three principle duties of the slave patrol model were to search slave lodges, keep slaves from the roadway, and dissemble meetings organized by slaves. The slave patrols were mostly white males (a few women) and various socioeconomic statuses, ranging from the very poor to plantation owners (Turner, Giacopassi, & Vandiver, 2006). These patrols remained during the Civil War and were not entirely dispersed after slavery was abolished; however, during the early Reconstruction era, other groups merged with the former slave patrols to maintain control over the African American citizenry, these groups included the federal military, the state militia and the Ku Klux Klan (Wrobleski, & Hess, 2005).

Although some regard slave patrol as America's first formal attempt at policing, others recognize police departments' merger in numerous cities in the early to mid-1800s (Lundman 1980). In 1833, Philadelphia implemented the first-day watch; in 1844, New York created its first-day watch to complement its municipal police force and unified in 1945; the Saint Louis Police Metropolitan Department in 1846; the Chicago Police Department in 1854; and the Los Angeles Police Department in 1869 (Gaines, Kappeler, and Vaughn, 1999; Lundman 1980).

The newly formed American agencies had three distinct differences from their earlier English counterparts, which can be described as limited police authority (police powers are defined by law), local control (local governments accept the obligation for the provisional police services). Fragmented law enforcement authority (several agencies share authority within a defined area) can lead to miscommunication, control, and cooperation among the agencies and personnel (Gaines, Kappeler, & Vaughn, 1999). Other debate issues for American police departments included whether officers should wear uniforms, carry weapons, and what amount

of physical force should be used during interactions. Notwithstanding some American officers' objection, they were eventually required to wear uniforms and shortly afterward encouraged to carry nightsticks (clubs) and revolvers. The use of force is still an issue that incites debate in police agencies and their constituents today (Gaines, Kappeler & Vaughn, 1999; Skinner & Haas, 2016).

Law Enforcement Agencies

In general, there are three types of law enforcement agencies in the United States: local, state, and federal (Simmons, 2007). Local Agencies include City Police Departments, County Sheriff's Offices, Transit Authority Police, School District Police, Housing Authority Police, District Attorneys' Office Investigators, Airport Police, Harbor Police, University Hospital Police.

Some entities considered state agencies include State Highway Patrol, State Bureaus of Investigation, State Attorney General's Office, State Department of Conservation, State Department of Corrections, State Fish and Game Enforcement, State Parks Ranger Service, and State Port Authority.

Concordantly, there are multiple federal agencies in the United States, including the following; U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations, U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, U.S. Capitol Police, U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Defense Criminal Investigative Service, U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Federal Protective Service, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. IRS Criminal Investigations Division, U.S. Marshal Service, U.S. Naval Criminal Investigative Service, U.S. Office of

Special Investigations, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and the U.S. Secret Service (Reaves & Hickman, 1998; Rektor, 1975).

Law Enforcement Structure

A national police force is nonexistent in the United States; however, there are about 500,000 police officers. These officers comprise about 40,000 separate police forces, including one or two-person agencies in small towns across the United States. These law enforcement agencies' size and scope vary, yet many of them share a similar structure. Public agencies conventionally follow a vertical organizational structure, wherein issues that cannot be resolved at one level are forwarded to each hierarchical level until a resolution is reached (Matusiak, King & Maguire, 2017).

Police agencies' organizational design was a seldom-discussed topic amongst administrators until recently. Conversely, some law enforcement administrators experimented with various efficiency models, such as directed patrol, split-force patrol, and saturation patrol, to increase output, reduce fiscal expenditures, and nurture relations with the citizenry. However, those involved often shared a parochial view of law enforcement work. Instead, concentration was placed on community relations rather than improving agency efficiency by incorporating ways to empower their officers and other employees.

Police Culture

In its simplest form, organizational culture embraces an organization's expectations, capabilities, and values and the ideals that guide its members' behavior and is conveyed in member self-image and interactions with that outside of the organization (Needle, 2004). Culture is centered on shared attitudes, beliefs, customs, and written and unwritten rules that have been

established over time and are considered valid. Culture considers the organization's vision, values, norms, systems, symbols, language, assumptions, beliefs, and habits (Needle, 2004).

Undisputedly, policing is a dangerous occupation. Law enforcement officers are aware of their profession's potential hazards; however, according to a study conducted by Morin, Parker, Stepler, and Mercer in 2017, 84% of officers reported they worry about their safety at least some of the time. Also, in the study, 86% reported that they do not believe the public understands the risks and challenges they face on the job. A third of all officers reported physical force when effecting an arrest during the past month, and 27% reported to have discharged their service firearm while on duty during their shift as a law enforcement officer, which does not include training exercises (Morin et al., 2017).

Of the respondents, 58 % reported their work as a law enforcement officer almost always makes them feel proud; however, 51% say their work often makes them feel frustrated (Morin et al., 2017). Additionally, 70% reported they had received some form of accommodation by someone for their police service, and over 60% reported they had been verbally abused by a member of their community while on duty during that same period. Finally, respondents were asked whether they view themselves more as protectors or enforcers, and approximately 60% reported they fill both roles equally (Morin et al., 2017).

Regardless of the duty as protectors or enforcers, many law enforcement officers express dangers while on duty. Officers with a longer tenure in law enforcement are more likely than newer officers to have used their firearms while on duty (Morin et al, 2017).

The disconnection between officers and the public is greater in officers from larger agencies than those smaller agencies. Among those in agencies comprised of 1,000 or more officers, 45%

reported the public does not understand the police's challenges. Among those in agencies comprised of fewer than 1,000 officers, only 35% share this view.

Police Subculture

There exists a subculture that permeates through most law enforcement agencies.

Although this police culture is harmful and is the root of corruption is often a shared theme in academic discourse, it has positive facets that are frequently disregarded. Members share values that allow officers to endure what at times is a trying and emotionally challenging occupation (Reiner, 2010). Values such as teamwork, determination, compassion, and empathy permit officers to cope with post-traumatic stress. Law enforcement officers who are confronted with perilous situations can depend on colleagues because of other values they trust these members possess. Ideals such as bravery, solidarity, and sacrifice will inspire officers to place themselves in harm's way.

Regardless of the attributes of police subculture, societal views of ethical conduct may not be viewed within the subculture as pertinent to the task, which includes the vital mission of safe-guarding social order (Reiner, 2010). Relevant police culture strategies can include deception and falsehoods to bring about confessions and receiving minor gratuities to nurture relations within the community (Reiner, 2010). Therefore, it is essential to examine the relationship between ethics and the police subculture to define the grey area of ethics and the grey area within which the police sometimes function.

Acknowledging the influence of positive and negative attributes within police subcultures is essential in understanding critical variables examined in this study (See Table 1).

Table 1

Attributes Found within Police Subculture

Positive Attributes	Negative Attributes
Safety	Cynicism
Camaraderie	Close-Mindedness
Empathy	Biases
Support	Prejudice
Caring	Non-Scientific Tactics
Teamwork	Overly Conservative
Loyalty	Loyalty
Sacrifice	Alienated
	Suspicion
	Authoritarianism

After police recruits are selected and offered positions by the law enforcement agencies, they are exposed to police subculture during their training partially due to the instruction they receive from police officers who are recently retired seconded to the police academy. They formed the belief that they would become police officers (Reiner, 2010).

As potential officers enter the selection process, they become involved in an extensive application process, their first introduction into the police subculture. Rokeach, Miller, and Snyder (1971) concluded that a police personality distinct from others exists and proposed that individuals come into an occupation with predetermined attributes identified with their new occupation. However, Rokeach et al. (1971) also found that these distinct police personalities are attributed to predispositions of personality present before the recruits' induction into the police subculture.

Emotional Intelligence

Emotional Intelligence is a person's ability to manage his feelings to express those feelings appropriately and effectively. According to Goleman (1995), emotional intelligence is the largest single predictor of success in the workplace. There are five categories of emotional intelligence: self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skills. *Self-awareness*

A person has a healthy sense of emotional intelligence self-awareness if they understand their strengths and weaknesses and how their actions affect others. A person with emotional self-awareness is usually receptive to, and able to learn from, constructive criticism more than one who does not have emotional self-awareness (Akers & Porter, 2007). Self-awareness has two main elements:

- Emotional awareness. Your ability to recognize your own emotions and their effects.
- Self-confidence. Sureness about your self-worth and capabilities.

Self-regulation

A person with high emotional intelligence can exercise restraint and control when expressing emotions. Some of the elements of self-regulation include:

- Self-control. Managing disruptive impulses.
- Trustworthiness. Maintaining standards of honesty and integrity.
- Conscientiousness. Taking responsibility for your performance.
- Adaptability. Handling change with flexibility.
- Innovation. Being open to new ideas.

Motivation

People with high emotional intelligence are self-motivated, resilient, and driven by an inner ambition rather than being influenced by outside forces, such as money or prestige.

- Achievement drive. Your constant striving to improve or to meet a standard of excellence.
- Commitment. Aligning with the goals of the group or organization.
- Initiative. Readying yourself to act on opportunities.
- Optimism. Pursuing goals persistently despite obstacles and setbacks.

Empathy

Motivations consist of:

An empathetic person has compassion and can connect with other people on an emotional level, helping them respond genuinely to other people's concerns. Those that possess a high level of empathy are:

- Service orientation. Anticipating, recognizing, and meeting clients' needs.
- Developing others. Sensing what others need to progress and bolstering their abilities.
- Leveraging diversity. Cultivating opportunities through diverse people.
- Political awareness. Reading a group's emotional currents and power relationships.
- Understanding others. Discerning the feelings behind the needs and wants of others.

Social Skills

Emotionally intelligent people can build trust with other people and gain respect from the people they meet quickly.

- Influence. Wielding effective persuasion tactics.
- Communication. Sending clear messages.
- Leadership. Inspiring and guiding groups and people.

- Change catalyst. Initiating or managing change.
- Conflict management. Understanding, negotiating, and resolving disagreements.
- Building bonds. Nurturing instrumental relationships.
- Collaboration and cooperation. Working with others toward shared goals.
- Team capabilities. Creating group synergy in pursuing collective goals.

Emotional Intelligence Historical Background

In 1985, Wayne Leon Payne, a graduate student at an alternative liberal arts college in the United States, authored a doctoral dissertation, which included the term emotional intelligence in the title. This occurrence of the term appears to the first academic use of the term "emotional intelligence." In 1990, John Mayer, University of New Hampshire, and Peter Salovey, Yale, were published two academic journal articles. Mayer and Salovey were attempting to develop a way of scientifically measuring the difference between people's ability in emotions. According to their research, some people were better than others at things like identifying their feelings, identifying others' feelings, and investigating issues involving emotional issues. The title of one of these papers was "Emotional Intelligence." Since 1990, Mayer and Salovey have developed two instruments to measure emotional intelligence.

Despite their contributions, the person most commonly associated with emotional intelligence is Daniel Goleman, a consultant. In 1992, Goleman researched a book about emotions and emotional literacy when he discovered the 1990 article by Salovey and Mayer. In 1955, after obtaining permission from Salovey and Mayer to use the term, he published "Emotional Intelligence." Mainstream media widely publicized the book; however, Goleman has been criticized for misrepresenting Salovey and Mayer's term emotional intelligence. According to Kauts and Hans (2011), Goleman expanded the definition of emotional intelligence to the

degree that it does not have scientific value or a precise predictor of outcome. In 1998, Goleman published Working with Emotional Intelligence, wherein; he widened the definition of emotional intelligence even further, saying that it consists of 25 skills, abilities, and competencies. Since then, there have been many definitions of emotional intelligence. The most current Mayer-Salovey definition for emotional intelligence will be used for this study.

Emotional Intelligence and Law Enforcement

Law enforcement professionals are plagued with many problems, including rapid decision-making, threats of imminent danger, and media and community misperceptions.

Brunetto, Teo, Shacklock, and Farr-Wharton (2012) examined associations between EI, engagement, well-being, and engagement variables in a sample of 193 (68% male, 32% female) police officers from Australia. The average tenure in their current station was less than five years. Thirty-two percent were ranking officers. To assess EI, Wong and Law's (2002) EI scale was used. Cronbach alpha for these measures was 0.84, and construct, content, and criterion validity have been established (Wong & Law, 2002).

Results indicated that generally, EI predicted police officers' perceptions of well-being and, which influenced engagement and commitment and, consequently, negatively affected intent to leave. Gender differences were found in that EI scores were highest in females, which supports Ponterotto, Ruckdeschel, Joseph, Tenenbaum, and Bruno (2011).

Emotional Intelligence measures used in Law Enforcement

There is growing evidence suggesting that emotional intelligence is a factor in predicting work performance, especially in those involving regular interpersonal contact with people, such as the law enforcement profession. Emotions can improve our relationships when managed proactively and efficiently. Emotions can persuade and direct our thinking to include realistic

and appropriate actions or even save our lives. Conversely, unmanaged emotions can hijack reasoning and logic and contribute to responses that may cause regret (Goleman, 2011).

For law enforcement officers to effectively protect and serve the public, they should manage their emotions and understand others' emotions and use this knowledge to guide their thinking, action, and decision-making. When progressive law enforcement leaders explore all available tools at their disposal to combat the current social disdain toward the police profession, a better understanding of emotional intelligence becomes essential (Conroy, 2017).

Law enforcement has tools at its disposal for mitigating what appears to be explosive growth in the social condemnation that is impacting public safety agencies of all sizes throughout the country. Selker (2014) believes the long-overdue conversation about these challenges is about policing and emotional/social intelligence (ESI). His compelling case for change behind this discussion includes:

- 1) Opportunities to improve both officer and citizen safety
- 2) Improved and increased solution options for resolution of high-conflict encounters,
- 3) Mitigation of judgment and behavior issues aggravated by poor physical or psychological health.

An improved understanding of emotional intelligence also can act as a countermeasure to the present volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity (VUCA) demand of the 21st Century police officer (Bar-On, Brown, Kirkcaldy, & Thome, 2000).

Among the salient research work on emotional intelligence in law enforcement was FBI SSA research (ret.) Timothy Turner at the FBI National Academy. Although Turner's work focused primarily on identifying the EQ competencies differentiating FBI National Academy graduates from other law enforcement leaders, his work opened the door to discussing emotional

and social intelligence in law enforcement. Turner's work reinforced the research findings of those in other professions. Essentially, exemplary performers in specific job roles in an organization can be determined by identifying specific emotional intelligence clusters in employees.

In his research, the statistically significant EQ competency clusters in law enforcement officers included: social responsibility, problem-solving, self-actualization, and interpersonal relationships. Clear understandings of both interpersonal and intrapersonal aspects of emotional intelligence can serve as a proactive strategy to manage both officer and citizen well-being.

Employee Engagement

Kahn (1990) introduced personal engagement and personal disengagement in the workplace. Personal engagement in the workplace, also known as employee engagement, is defined as "the harnessing of organization members' selves to their work roles; in engagement, people employ and express themselves physically, cognitively, and emotionally during role performances" (Kahn, 1990, p. 694).

The concept of employee engagement is an essential element of an effective organization. According to Trahant (2009), there is a direct correlation between an organization's desire outcome and elevated employee engagement levels within the organization. However, this concept is often overlooked by many workplaces, therefore, creating a deficit in these organizations' planning and development strategies to promote extremely engaged employees (Trahant, 2009).

Employee Engagement Overview

According to Burke, Koyuncu, and Wolpin (2012), the sum of workplace experiences, such as rewards, recognition, training, workplace support, and encouragement, are indicators of

work engagement. Also, the potential for professional growth and fair, impartial organizational support correlated to enhanced levels of employee engagement (Koyuncu, Burke, and Fiksenbaum, 2006). Moreover, an employee's confidence in management impacted employee engagement levels (Vosloban ,2013). Organizations attempting to promote employee engagement should explore strategies to improve workplace environments and workplace relationships.

Employee Engagement and Burnout

Engaged employees display less burnout and more organizational commitment than disengaged employees (Sprietzer & Porath, 2012). Although they are opposite, engagement and burnout have very similar characteristics. One of which is that both can be transmittable among members of the same team, both consciously and subconsciously, through interaction (Bakker, Emmerik & Euwema, 2006). When team members experience burnout or engagement, the workplace environment's effect can increase or decrease the dedication and responsibility.

Occupations with high job demands can generate low engagement, while occupations with high demands and plentiful work-related resources can produce high engagement (Ventura, Salanova, & Llorens, 2015). If an employee views a demand as a hindrance, it is also viewed as a stressor that can impede growth. In contrast, if an employee views a demand as a challenge, it is also viewed as a chance for development that subscribes to the positive elements of engagement (Ventura et al., 2015).

Burnout

Schaufeli and Peeters (2000) describe stress as an interaction between an employee and the occupation's environmental conditions. The stress process is comprised of environmental factors, which employees describe as job stressors, and their reactions or strain towards these

stressors are characterized into three groups: (1) physiological strains (e.g., migraines, sweaty palms, high blood pressure); (2) psychological strains (e.g., dissatisfaction, burnout, anxiety); (3) behavioral strains (e.g., alcohol and drug abuse, absenteeism, domestic violence). However, while stress is a subjective experience, burnout is most often considered mental and emotional fatigue due to sustained interactions under stressful environmental conditions with limited relief and inadequate resources (Bakker & Demerouti, 2007).

Burnout and Law Enforcement

The study of relationships among people and high-stress occupations and professions in the modern age has come to include burnout, which is characterized by a profession's long-term stress reactions. Working in law enforcement has always been considered a high-stress, emotionally laborious job. Given the current climate of opinions among laypersons and media, in the wake of the call for police reform, there is empirical evidence to support the assertion that stress can be observed, taxing, and cause potential long-term adverse effects on those in certain professions, particularly law enforcement.

Burke (1994) found that law enforcement individuals are more likely than any other profession to experience burnout. Additional research in the modern examination of burnout's concept showed multiple definitions in the literature and minimal consistency on an agreed-upon definition. This lack of agreement and difficulty in defining and measuring the construct of burnout led to its early development in an article describing the burnout phenomenon by Freudenberger (1975) and Maslach (1976). Fortunately, Maslach (1982, 1998) created a theoretically based framework for the burnout construct, under which much of the literature today operates.

Andragogy

Learning is a continuous progression wherein we process and assimilate information.

Teaching is a method wherein learning is the outcome of those lessons. Opposite from pedagogy, the term andragogy defines learners as the primary contributors in the teaching-learning transaction (Darkenwald & Merriam, 1982). Generally, the term pedagogy is how the teaching-learning transaction occurs between children and adults, whereas the term andragogy encompasses the teaching-learning transaction constructs between adults. A comparative overview of the historical model, philosophical approach, and the two concepts' teacher-learner transactions will be discussed. Additionally, the focus will facilitate adult learning's most essential characteristics.

Background and Historical Model

Pedagogy and andragogy share the same root word, "gogy, "which in Greek translates to "leading"; however, the term has been modified to indicate learning, teaching, or instruction. The mutual linguistic root is the most obvious similarity between the two. The word "peda" translates as child; therefore, pedagogy is the art and science of teaching children (Simpson & Weiner, 1989). Conversely, "andra" is a derivative of the word adult. Accordingly, andragogy is the art and science of guiding adults in the learning process (Knowles, 1984). In the realm of andragogy, adults are individuals who have assumed adult roles in society, regardless of their age (Darkenwald & Merriam, 1982). More specifically, an adult is an individual who has acquired the principal social role of employee or worker, spousal partner, or parent and has departed the primary social role that children and adolescence hold, a traditional full-time student. These individuals have assumed chief responsibility for their own life (Darkenwald & Merriam, 1982; Forrest & Peterson, 2006).

Before 1950, most educational research focused on children; subsequently, there was a lack of evidence to support how adults learn. In 1833, the term "andragogy" first appeared when Alexander Kapp used the term to refer to Plato's theory. In 1921, Eugen Rosenback coined the term during a conference in Frankfurt, Germany. In the 1960s, andragogy emerged in modern educational literature by practitioners to describe adult learners' distinctive characteristics. The existing use of the term is due primarily to the substantive work of Malcolm Knowles when he first introduced it in 1968 with his publication of *Adult Education: Andragogy Versus*Pedagogy. In the 1980 edition of *The Modern Practice of Adult Education*, Knowles revised the correlation between the pedagogical and andragogical concepts. Knowles expressed pedagogy as subject-centered and andragogy as learner-centered.

Adult Education

Adult Education is any form of learning adults engage in beyond traditional K-12 schooling in the broadest sense. Over the past decades, adult education's focus has changed considerably; the scope has grown from a constricted vocational skill focus to broader encompassing fields such as information technology (Imel, 2005). The primary sources of adult education are schools, colleges and universities, proprietary schools, and the government. In the past, the bulk of adult education was limited to apprenticeship programs; wherein, an individual learned a trade from his mentor in areas such as farming, carpentry, blacksmithing, etc. (Rose, 1991). At present, millions of individuals are engaged in adult education. This educational array ranges from traditional courses, correspondence courses, online courses, discussion groups, seminars, in-service training (Imel, 2005; Rose, 1991).

Progression of Adult Education

Apprenticeship was the primary form of adult education during the American Colonial period. In 1727, Benjamin Franklin founded Juno, one of the first adult education programs and organizations in American History (Imel, 2005). The course of study in Juno comprised topics such as politics, philosophy, and conventional topics. About four years later, Franklin founded the first Public Library. The concept of borrowing books was introduced, and adults were admitted based on fees and fines, generating revenue for the library operations (Imel, 2005).

Around 1800, Josiah Holbrook formed another adult education program called the Lyceum. At the Lyceum, men met and participated in debates, lectures, and discussions. At one point, the Lyceum grew to over three thousand around the country (Imel,2005; Rose, 1991). In the 1830s, it dissolved (Imel, 2005; Parker, 1990).

In the 1900s, the Federal Government became involved in the educational process with the Smith Hughes Act's implementation, which was initiated to provide funding for training in the area(s) of farming, home economics, and vocations (Imel, 2005). In the 1920s, English language programs for immigrants were established (Parker, 1990; Rose, 1991). The depression of the 1930s saw the formation of the Works Progress Administration; wherein, the government trained adults to re-employ them. During the 1940s, the government-sponsored Army recruits' literacy testing and GED development (Parker, 1990).

After WWII, the government formed the Veterans Administration, wherein veterans received a monetary incentive to attend school. It was a catalyst for an increase in American colleges and universities (Rose, 2005). In the 1950s, the United States Office of Education created education programs for African Americans (Barros, 1968). The National Association for Public Schools Adult Educators was founded, which provided grants that assisted in installing

Adult Education Directors in nine states. In the late 1950s, the National Commission on Adult Literacy was established to increase awareness and stimulate community action (Rose, 1991).

In the 1960s, the Manpower Development and Training Act and the Adult Basic Education Act were created. The Manpower Development and Training Act allocated funds to train unemployed adults and increase their marketability (Parker. 1990; Rose, 2005). The Adult Basic Education Act was part of the War on Poverty initiative. These acts were a segway for many adult basic education programs, which are still in use today, including the Adult Education Act and its amendments, which spanned from the 1970s to the late 1980s. In 1991, the National Literacy Act replaced the AEA and established the National Institute for Literacy, only to be replaced in 1998 by Title II of the Workforce Investment Act (Parker, 1990; Rose, 1991). *Adult Education*

The information provided in the preceding paragraphs promotes a previously portrayed concept that adult education referred to learning corrective and rudimentary skills. However, today's curriculum emphasizes advanced level skills, which are extensive and embrace concepts such as problem-solving, conflict resolution, lifelong learning, information literacy, and information technology. Learners can enroll in adult education programs at schools, community colleges, university extension programs, and prisons. However, education goes beyond what takes place within the classroom's four walls. A learner obtains education from the experiences outside the classroom. There are three main education settings: formal, informal, and non-formal.

Formal education occurs in a school or designated classroom. Some of the formal education characteristics are the hierarchical structure, planned and deliberate, due fees, and a chronological grading system; it is syllabus oriented, and the syllabus has is covered within a specific time (Coombs, 1991).

Informal education is not pre-planned or deliberate (Dib, 1988; Nelson, Cushion & Potrac, 2006). It consists of experiences and living in a family or community. Some of the characteristics are independent of boundary walls; there is no definite syllabus; it is not pre-planned and has no timetable. It is a lifelong process (Coombs, 1991).

Non-formal education includes adult basic education, adult literacy education, and school equivalency preparation. Non-formal education is conveyed consciously and deliberately (Coombs, 1991). It is implemented systematically and typically is programmed to serve the identified group's needs. Some of the characteristics include: the education is planned and takes place apart from the school system, the timetable and syllabus are adjustable, non-formal education has no age limit, fees or certificates may or may not be necessary, and maybe full-time or part-time learning. Within these environments, the constructs of the motivation in adult education theory apply to the adult learner (Houle, 1984).

This learning can be obtained from various means and agencies with very different agendas for the adult learner. According to Schroeder (1980), there are four types of adult education agencies: Independent Agencies, Education Institutions, Quasi-educational Organizations, and Non-educational Organizations. A description and example of these agencies are in the following table (Table 2).

Over the past 30 years, adult education programs have experienced significant interferences and changes in education and training delivery for adult learners. Possibly, one of the most substantial changes has been the introduction of online learning in its various formats to higher education (Allen & Seaman, 2015). Online modalities were advances initiated out of necessity by an adult and continuing education entities in higher education instead of traditional academic entities (Picciano, Seaman, & Allen, 2010).

Table 2

Adult Education Agencies by Schroeder (1980)

Type #	Type	Description	Example
Type I	Independent	The education of	Community-based agencies, Non-Profit adult
	Adult Agencies	adults is the	schools, Residential Adult Centers, Proprietary
		principal goal or	Schools, Technical Schools, Correspondence
		function.	Schools
Type II	Educational	Adult education	Public schools, Community Colleges, Four-
	Institutions	is not a principal	year Colleges and Universities, Cooperative
		goal or function.	Extension, Community Education
Type III	Quasi-	Education is an	Cultural
	Educational	associated	Organizations, Religious Organizations, Senior
	Organizations	function to	Citizens Centers, Occupational Associations
		achieve some	
		goals of the	
		agencies.	
Type IV	Non-Educational	Education is	Business and Industry
	Organizations	used to improve	Government Agencies, Armed Forces
		the realization of	Unions, Correctional Institutions, Hospitals
		goals.	

Adult Education's goal is to assist adults in examining, recognizing, and modifying assumptions, beliefs, and values that form how they learn, perform, contemplate, and meet their needs (Cranton & King, 2003; Finger, 1989). A vigorous adult education system is a financial imperative for individuals and the United States' economic prosperity. The nation cannot compete economically without improving the skills of its workforce. High school graduates and those without education will find themselves mostly left behind in the coming decade as the

employer demand for workers with postsecondary credentials continues to proliferate (Bughin, Hazan, Lund, Dahlstrom, Wiesinger & Subramaniam, 2018).

Adults that have not obtained a high school diploma are almost twice as likely to be unemployed and are more than three times more likely to live in poverty than adults with some college education are (U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2018). It is predicted that by 2020, 65% of all U.S. jobs will require education or training beyond high school; however, 38% of the U.S. workforce (59 million out of 166 million adults) possesses a high school education or less (Carnevale, Smith & Strohl, 2013). Also, adults who have more education earn higher incomes and pay more taxes, which helps communities prosper (McLendon, Jones & Rosin, 2011). In addition, they are less likely to face incarceration and are more poised to make their voices heard on matters of public policy (Davis, Bozick, Steele, Saunders & Miles, 2013). Adult Education is not the means to all ends; however, it appears to be one of the obvious advantageous paths.

Teacher-Learner Transactions

According to Knowles (1977), pedagogy is not learner-centered because it focuses on the subject matter to be learned and the instructor's knowledge (Nottingham Andragogy Group, 1983). Conversely, andragogy's philosophy does not ignore what students have to offer to the learning experience in favor of prearranged course content (Knowles, 1980). Furthermore, andragogy and pedagogy are not teaching techniques but rather philosophies that guide practitioners' frameworks. Resoundingly, instructional strategies are neither pedagogical nor andragogical because they can use multiple strategies.

At the foundation of the pedagogical learning model is dependency; the assumption is that students have little knowledge. Therefore, in this paradigm, the pupil is reliant upon the

instructor. According to Knowles (1977), the andragogical teaching model likens the relationship between the teacher and the learner to traveler and guide. The learner distinguishes the destination and has previous experiences in traveling. The teacher provides direction, allows learners to use their experiences, and seeks new information. In contrast to pedagogy, the instructor is not just a conveyer of information but rather serves as a mentor and guides to assist students in their development.

Arguably, the ultimate goal of andragogy is to develop individuals capable of adaptation, free inquiry, and self-sufficiency. As the education process continues, the instructor becomes less critical to the student's learning. Due to the latter, andragogy is considered a learner-centered educational model. Knowles (1984, 1989) defined the following assumptions as crucial foundations for andragogy and are the essential characteristics of the andragogical model:

- Learner's Self Concept Adults have a self-concept of a self-directing personality,
- 2. Role of Experience Adults bring a wealth of experience to the learning process,
- 3. Readiness to Learn Adults come to the learning process ready to learn,
- 4. Need to know Adults need to know the reason for learning something; and
- 5. Motivation to Learn Adults are driven by an intrinsic motivation to learn.

Learner's Self-concept

Most adults believe they are independent and are responsible for their own lives (Knowles, Swanson, & Holton, 2005). Adults must be recognized and treated as being capable and self-directed. Facilitators should construct environments conducive to the development of self-directed learning skills, which are sometimes dormant (Brookfield, 1986).

Role of Experience

As opposed to youth, adults enter an educational activity with a wealth of different experiences and knowledge (Knowles et al., 2005; Merriam & Caffarella, 1999). These experiences are unique to the individual and include differences in background, learning style, motivation, needs, interests, and goals, which create a greater need for individualization of teaching and learning strategies (Brookfield, 1986; Silberman & Auerbach, 1998). The most abundant means for learning exist in the adult learner. Hence, experiential techniques, such as problem-solving activities, case methods, and discussion, to tap into these resources are beneficial to the facilitator (Brookfield, 1986; Knowles et al., 2005; McKeachie, 2002; Silberman & Auerbach, 1998).

Readiness to Learn

In order to adapt to real-life situations, adults develop a readiness to learn, which they perceive as things they believe need to be known to adapt (Knowles et al., 2005). Adults desire to learn what they believe applies to them in their current role, making training outside their field difficult.

Need to Know

Adult learners want to know why they need to learn something before participating in the learning event (Knowles et al., 2005). Thus, facilitators need to make a case for the value of learning and assist adult learners in becoming aware of their need to know and its connection to their personal goals.

Motivation to Learn

Adults are responsive to some external motivators (e.g., better profession, increased salaries, promotion, fringe benefits); however, the most compelling motivators are internal

(e.g., aspiration for increased engagement, personal growth, self-esteem, pride, autonomy) (Knowles et al., 2005).

When Knowles updated his theoretical andragogical model in 1984, he also suggested four principles applicable to adult learning. These principles were planning, experience, relevance, and content. According to Knowles (1984), adults should have direct involvement in planning their learning opportunities. Additionally, adults benefit more from these learning opportunities when they are involved in evaluating their instruction (Knowles, 1984). Adults often learn directly from their personal experiences, including prior mistakes, which become the basis for present and upcoming learning opportunities. Adults have a preference to learn about concepts or ideas that have an immediate significance to them (Knowles, 1984). This concept implies that the most effective learning occurs when a learner's career or personal life will directly impact the learning opportunity. Finally, adults learn from a problem-centered perspective instead of a content-orientated perspective, which is typically the perspective of a pedagogical-based curriculum (Knowles, 1984).

The pedagogy paradigm does not embrace the requirements of adult learners. The differences between pedagogy and andragogy are quite apparent as can be seen in Table 3. There have been several theoretical approaches to adult learning that have provided insight on the adult learner. These methods have provided researchers with conceptual frameworks in which they consider practices across numerous adult learning contexts.

Arguably, andragogy is the best known of these approaches. Knowles is recognized with bringing this framework to attention in North America. There are specific assumptions within the andragogy paradigm, such as Adults prefer self-direction in learning; Adults bring a wealth of experience that should be considered when planning the learning experience. Additional

assumptions include adults demonstrate a readiness to learn, which is based on a need to know something or do something; Adults demonstrate an orientation to learning that is task-or problem-centered rather than subject-centered, and adults demonstrate a high degree of intrinsic motivation. Despite being widely debated by scholars, who note the situational variables that influence the degree to which adults exhibit these characteristics, this framework is one of the most resilient and widely cited theories of adult learning (Merriam & Caffarella, 1999).

Table 3

Comparison of Pedagogical an	nd Andragogical Models	
The Learner	 Pedagogical The learner is dependent upon the teacher. The teacher assumes responsibility for what is taught and how it will be taught The teacher evaluates 	 Andragogical The leaner is self-directed The learner is responsible for their learning Self-evaluation occurs
Orientation to Learning	 Learning is the method of procuring prescribed subject matter Units of content are sequenced according to the logic of the subject matter 	live in a more satiating manner • Leaning must have relevance
Learner Motivation	 Primary motivation is extrinsic, grades, and the consequence of failure 	 Learning is organized around the personal and professional life of the learner Primary motivation is intrinsic

Self-Directed Learning

Allen Tough, a Canadian adult educator, published a study suggesting the majority of adult learning happened without the assistance of formally trained educators (Brookfield, 1981). The framework of self-directed learning intrigued and inspired many adult educators worldwide. There is currently sufficient research and theoretical analysis to validate the publication of many literature reviews dedicated exclusively to self-directed learners (Caffarrella and O' Donnell, 1990).

Self-directed learning is the transfer of learning from the instructor to the learner. SelfIt is a process in which individuals take the initiative, diagnose their learning needs, formulate learning goals, identify human and material resources for learning, choose and implement appropriate learning strategies, and evaluate learning outcomes (Knowles, 1975). This concept's target population is the adult learner; however, one of the significant issues is the incorporation of self-directed learning into traditional adult learning settings.

Background

Knowles introduced andragogy to North American adult educators; during the same period, self-directed learning emerged as another model that helped discerning adult learners from children. Knowles contributed to the self-directed learning literature wherein he published an explanation of the concept and outlined its implementation through learning contracts (Knowles, 1975). Additionally, Knowles's first assumption underlying andragogy is that learners become increasingly self-directed as they mature (Knowles, 1975). Nevertheless, Tough (1967, 1971), expounding on the work of Houle (1961), delivered the first inclusive description of self-directed learning as a form of study. Established on Houle, Tough, and Knowles' groundbreaking work, initial research in self-directed learning was expressive, which confirmed the extensive

presence of self-directed learning among adults and documented the progression by which it occurred. The unveiling of this concept engendered one of the key advancements of research in adult education (Brookfield, 1981).

According to Knowles (1975), there are three primary reasons for self-directed learning. First, he suggested that proactive learners learn more things and learn better than reactive learners learn. Secondly, self-directed learning was more in line with our natural psychological development processes (Knowles, 1975). Finally, many of the novel developments in education place a considerable responsibility on the learners to have a substantial amount of initiative in their learning (Knowles 1975). Additionally, Knowles' offered a five-step model to incorporate the concept of self-directed learning. This model consisted of diagnosing learning needs, formulating learning needs, identifying human material resources for, choosing and implementing appropriate learning strategies, and evaluating learning outcomes.

Education is the process of facilitating learning, or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, beliefs, and habits. Traditionally, education takes place under teachers' guidance; however, learners may also educate themselves. Education can take place in a formal, informal, or non-formal setting.

Self-Directed Learning and Adult Education Settings

Formal education is an organized education model that is structured and systematic.

Schools and universities use this method to transfer knowledge to their students. In this setting, learning institutions are administratively, physically, and curriculum-focused. In formal education, teachers and students must observe; this involves intermediate and final assessments to advance students to the next learning stage. In formal education, the students receive a degree

or diploma at the end of the formation, and there are often desired behavioral objectives, which are often operationally established (Brookfield, 1981).

Informal education is learning which occurs outside of a formal learning environment. It is learning in daily life and learning projects that we embark on for ourselves (Smith, 2009). Informal education can be used in formal or non-formal education settings to facilitate learning. This facilitation can be achieved through using television programs, films, or the internet to identify and support ideas. It also includes non-credit programs, such as engaging in community art classes. Non-formal education (experiential or incidental/random learning) results from daily activities related to work, family, or leisure. It is learning that is not organized or structured in terms of objectives, time, or learning support. In most cases, informal learning is unintentional from the learner's perspective (Smith & Clayton, 2009).

Implications

A self-directed learning environment necessitates learners to create their own learning goals and activities within the course objectives (Hanna, Glowacki-Dudka, & Conceicao-Runlee, 2000). It also entails a curriculum dedicated to processing versus content (Conrad & Donaldson, 2012; Knowles, 1984). The facilitator must relinquish control of the course and allow learners to be empowered, initially working within the course together as equal and respected persons, and then with the facilitator as an expert (Burge, 1988; Conrad & Donaldson, 2012). Collaboration between learners requires establishing a safe environment where learners cannot share ideas, experiences, and learning through conversation and information exchange (Conrad & Donaldson, 2012; Palloff & Pratt, 2001).

As Knowles (1980) indicated, some learners will be more self-directed than others.

Learners should be encouraged to communicate with each other frequently with substantive,

thoughtful conversation. As learners begin to share their thoughts, communication will generally increase and prompt valuable discussion. Although adult learners may desire self-direction in their learning activities, they may lack the necessary resources to function independently. Knowles acknowledged this and suggested faculty act as a guide (Knowles 1975). As with andragogy, self-directed learning has proven to be a pillar of adult learning theory. Recent self-directed learning applications include its role in lifelong learning and continuing professional education, how self-directed learning can be acknowledged and incorporated into the workplace, and how being self-directed is one criterion for success in online learning environments (Merriam et al., 2007).

Summary

As previously mentioned, the law enforcement profession has evolved since its inception; therefore, law enforcement's training needs have evolved. These needs will continue to evolve as technology improves (Chan, 2001) and as new threats to social order and demands for social stability increase in the community. The training needs will continue to evolve with political changes and the associated transformations of policing roles (Garland, 2001; Hills, 2000; Koch, 1998; Marenin, 1996). Longstanding skills and values need to be matched with new skills appropriate to new policing philosophies. As policing ideologies change, the organization should continuously and routinely evaluate formal training structure and impact.

CHAPTER 3. METHODS

Introduction

Chapter 1 presented the study by providing the over-all background information of the topic, statement of the problem, the purpose of the study, research questions, significance of the study, limitations, and definition of terms. Chapter 2 delivers a literature review systematized into five key sections: police organizations, emotional intelligence (EI), employee engagement, burnout, and andragogy's role in law enforcement training. Chapter 3 offers the current study's research methods, the process of participant recruitment, and the target population and demographics of the sample. Additionally, Chapter 3 describes the current study measures, the basis of the instruments used for each measure, each measure's reliability to include corresponding Cronbach's alpha coefficients, and examples of the questions for respective instruments.

Purpose of Study

The purpose of this study was to examine the relationship among administrative officers', criminal investigators,' and patrol officers' emotional intelligence traits as measured by the Assessing Emotions (SSEIT) Scale (Schutte, Malouff, & Bhullar, 2009). The study also explored the relationship between employee engagement as measured by the Work and Well-being Survey (UWES). Finally, this study sought to examine burnout as measured by the Professional Quality of Life Scale (PROQOL) Version 5 (2009).

Numerous studies support the concepts of emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout as the sole or correlating variable; however, there are limited studies wherein these three concepts are considered and are compared to these two distinct occupations in law enforcement. The concepts of emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout and

their relationship to law enforcement officers have been researched; however, there is limited research as to the correlation regarding these concepts between administrative officers, criminal investigators, and patrol officers. This study's findings may imply vetting during hiring processes and promotions, targeted in-service training, specialized assignments, disciplinary procedures, and descriptive analysis in performance evaluations.

Research Questions

- 1. What demographic characteristics (e.g., gender, age, education level, and years of experience) are predictive of police officers a) emotional intelligence, b) employee engagement, and c) burnout?
- 2. After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does emotional intelligence predict a) engagement and b) burnout among police officers?
- 3. After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does police officer job classification (e.g., administrative, patrol, or criminal investigators) moderate the relationship between emotional intelligence and a) employee engagement, and b) burnout among police officers?

Participants

Three-hundred and thirty-five survey responses were received from police officers currently employed in the United States. While gender distribution was not equal, the present study provided a nationally representative sample of law enforcement officers; thus, the decision was made to use the sample for data analysis ($N_{\text{males}} = 85.1\%$; $n_{\text{males}} = 88.6\%$). Participants with more than 50% of data missing were removed (N = 63). The study's inclusion criteria were: participants must be age 19 years of age or older and currently employed by a law enforcement agency as an administrative officer, criminal investigator, or patrol officer in the United States.

A total of 272 respondents were used for analyses. Characteristics of the analytic sample are presented in the next section. A demographic questionnaire advised by previous studies and designed by the researcher was applied to acquire participant demographic information. Three groups were projected: administrative officers, criminal investigators, and patrol officers.

*Demographics**

This study's target population was law enforcement officers, who self-reported position classification (i.e., administrative, criminal investigators, and patrol) from each of the seven geographic regions in the United States. The researcher identified the following variables as demographic indicators for the focus of this study: age, ethnicity, gender, years of law enforcement experience [EXP], level of education, and current position classification [CLASS].

A total of 335 surveys were received. Of these, 272 were used for analyses. Participants with more than 50% of data missing were removed (N = 63). A demographic questionnaire advised by previous studies and designed by the researcher was applied to acquire participant demographic information. Three groups were projected, and the following classifications remained intact: administrative officers, criminal investigators, and patrol officers. *Sample*

The sample population consisted of 88.6% male (n = 241), 10.7% female (n = 29), and two participants (0.7 %) preferred not to answer. Most participants (n = 247, 90.8%) identified as Caucasian/White, 3.3% identified as African American/Black (n = 9), 3.7% identified as Hispanic/Latino (n = 10), 1.5% identified as Asian (n = 4), and 0.8% identified as Other (n = 2). Ages ranged from 22 to 84 years old (M = 50.1, SD = 10.48). Of these, 2.6% (n = 7) reported 1-5 years of professional experience, 5.5% (n = 15) reported 6-10 years, 7.7% (n = 21) 11-15 years, 12.9% (n = 35) reported 16-20 years, 26.1% (n = 71) reported 21-25 years, 16.9% (n = 46) 26-30

years, and 28.3% (n = 77) reported 31+ years professional experience. Results indicated that 40.8% (n = 111) had a bachelor's degree, 33.1% (n = 90) had a Master's, 11% (n = 30) had some college, 7.7% (n = 21) had an associate degree, 3.3% (n = 9) had a doctorate, 1.5% (n = 4) had a Specialist/Technical, 1.1% (n = 3) selected Other, and 0.7% (n = 2) had a high school diploma. Most participants identified their current job classification as administrative officers (n = 161, 59.2%), 21.3% (n = 58) as criminal investigators, and 19.5% (n = 53) as patrol officers.

The *administrative officers group* consisted of 89.4% male (n=144), 9.3% female (n=15), and two participants (n=1.2 %) preferred not to answer. Most participants (n=147, 91.3%) identified as Caucasian/White, 3.1% identified as African American/Black (n=5), 2.5% identified as Hispanic/Latino (n=4), 1.9% identified as Asian (n=3), and 0.6% identified as Other (n=1). Ages ranged from 33 to 84 years old (M=53.2, SD=9.59). Of these, 1.2% (n=2) reported 1-5 years of professional experience, 1.2% (n=2) reported 6-10 years, 3.7% (n=6) 11-15 years, 11.8% (n=19) reported 16-20 years, 24.2% (n=39) reported 21-25 years, 21.7% (n=35) 26-30 years, and 36% (n=58) reported 31+ years professional experience. Results indicated that 36.6% (n=59) had a bachelor's degree, 41.6% (n=67) had a Master's, 8.7% (n=14) had some college, 6.2% (n=10) had an associate degree, 4.3% (n=7) had a doctorate, and 1.9% (n=3) selected Other.

The *criminal investigator group* consisted of 89.7% male (n = 52), and 10.3% female (n = 6). Most participants (n = 52, 89.7%) identified as Caucasian/White, 3.4% identified as African American/Black (n = 2), 5.2% identified as Hispanic/Latino (n = 3), and 1.7% identified as Asian (n = 1). Ages ranged from 28 to 72 years old (M = 47.3, SD = 9.70). Of these, 12.1% (n = 7) reported 6-10 years professional experience, 10.3% (n = 6) 11-15 years, 13.8% (n = 8) reported 16-20 years, 27.6% (n = 16) reported 21-25 years, 12.1% (n = 7) 26-30 years, and 24.1% (n = 6)

14) reported 31+ years professional experience. Results indicated that 44.8% (n = 26) had a bachelor's degree, 20.7% (n = 12) had a Master's, 20.7% (n = 12) had some college, 5.2% (n = 3) had an associate's degree, 3.4% (n = 2) had a doctorate, 1.7% (n = 1) had a Specialist/Technical, and 3.4% (n = 2) had a high school diploma.

The *patrol officer group* consisted of 84.9% male (n=45), and 15.1% female (n=8). Most participants (n=48, 90.6%) identified as Caucasian/White, 3.8% identified as African American/Black (n=2), and 5.7% identified as Hispanic/Latino (n=3). Ages ranged from 22 to 63 years old (M=43.8, SD=10.37). Of these, 9.4% (n=5) reported 1-5 years of professional experience, 11.3% (n=6) reported 6-10 years, 17% (n=9) 11-15 years, 15.1% (n=8) reported 16-20 years, 30.2% (n=16) reported 21-25 years, 7.5% (n=4) 26-30 years, and 9.4% (n=5) reported 31+ years professional experience. Results indicated that 49.1% (n=26) had a bachelor's degree, 20.8% (n=11) had a Master's, 7.5% (n=4) had some college, 15.1% (n=8) had an associate degree, and 5.7% (n=3) had a Specialist/Technical.

Instrumentation

Demographic information was acquired using a demographic questionnaire consisting of gender, age, racial/ethnic origins, and education. Also, participants were requested to report employment information in the questionnaire. The questions addressed tenure, years of experience, classification, education level, the United States region, organization size, and participation in training relevant to this study. The instruments can be found in Appendix 2.

Table 4 Demographics of Sample by Class Status (N = 272)

	Administrative	Criminal	Patrol
	(n = 159)	Investigators (n = 58)	(n = 53)
Gender		-	
Female	15 (9.3%)	6 (10.3%)	45 (15.1%)
Male	144 (89.4%)	52 (89.7%)	8 (90.6%)
Age			
Range	33-84	28-72	22-63
Mean	53.2	47.3	43.8
Ethnicity			
Caucasian/White	147 (91.3%)	52 (89.7%)	48 (90.6%)
African-	5 (3.1%)	2 (3.4%)	2 (3.8%)
American/Black			
Hispanic/Latino	4 (2.5%)	3 (5.2%)	3 (5.7%)
Asian	3 (1.9 %)	1 (1.7%)	
Education			
< HS		8 (5.4%)	
HS/GED		70 (47.3%)	
Some College	10 (6.2%)	46 (31.1%)	4 (7.5%)
Associate's	7 (4.3%)	14 (9.5%)	8 (15.1%)
Bachelor's	59 (36.6%)	8 (5.3%)	26 (49.1%)
Master's	67 (41.6%)	2 (1.3%)	11 (20.8%)
Doctorate	7 (4.3%)		
Specialist/Tech			3 (5.7%)
Other	3 (1.9%)		1 (1.8%)
Years of Experience)		
1-5	2 (1.5%)		5 (9.4%)
6-10	2 (1.5%)	7 (12.1%)	6 (11.3%)
11-15	6 (3.7%)	6 (10.3%)	9 (17%)
16–20	19 (11.8%)	8 (13.8%)	8 (15.1%)
21-25	39 (24.2 %)	16 (27.6%)	13 (30.2%)
26-30	35 (21.7%)	7 (12.1%)	4 (7.5%)
Over 30	58 (36%)	4 (24.1%)	5 (9.4%)

Schutte Self-Report Emotional Intelligence Test (SSEIT)

Emotional intelligence was assessed using the SSEIT, also referred to as the Assessing Emotions Scale (Schutte et al., 1998), which focused on assessing conventional emotional intelligence, also known as a trait or characteristic of emotional intelligence. The inventory contains 33 self-report items rated on a 5-point Likert scale: 1 = Strongly Disagree; 2 =

Somewhat disagree; 3 = Neither agree nor disagree; 4 = Somewhat agree; 5 = Strongly agree. Higher scores suggested more characteristic emotional intelligence in managing emotions or reactions associated with emotions. The instrument has four subscales: Perception of Emotion (e.g., "I find it hard to understand the non-verbal messages of other people"), Managing Own Emotions (e.g., "When I am faced with obstacles, I remember times I faced similar obstacles and overcame them"), Managing Others' Emotions (e.g., "I help other people feel better when they are down"), and Utilization of Emotion (e.g., "Some of the major events of my life have led me to re-evaluate what is important and not important"). The latter grouping was the most identified and validated in the literature (Ciarrochi, Chan, & Bajgar, 2001). Measuring emotional intelligence in adolescents. Personality and individual differences, 31(7), 1105-1119. The composition of the subscale is as follows: Perception of Emotion (items 5, 9, 15, 18, 19, 22, 25, 29, 32, 33), Managing Own Emotions (2, 3, 10, 12, 14, 21, 23, 28, 31), Managing Others' Emotions (1, 4, 11, 13, 16, 24, 26, 30) and Utilization of Emotion (6, 7, 8, 17, 20, 27). Questions 5, 28, and 33 are reversed scored. The internal consistency across 46 diverse samples with emotional intelligence ($\alpha = 87$) has been good (Schutte, Malouff, & Bhullar, 2009). The score ranged from 33 to 165, with the higher scores indicating more characteristic EI (Schutte et al., 1998). The mean EI score is 124, while scores below 111 or above 137 are considered uncommonly low or high (Malouf, 2014). The EI scale was reported to have a good two-week test-retest reliability and an internal consistency of Cronbach 's alpha .90 (Schutte et al., 1998). The scale also showed predictive and discriminant validity (Schutte et al., 998). For the full sample in the current study, the mean score was 127.06, B = 10.87), $\alpha = .88$. Cronbach's alphas for the four-subscales were $\alpha = .80$ perception of emotion, .74 managing own emotions, .67 managing others' emotions, and .69 utilization of emotion.

Utrecht Work Engagement Scale (UWES)

Engagement was assessed using the Utrecht Work Engagement Scale (UWES; Schaufeli et al., 2003). The UWES was developed to assess employee work engagement. Work engagement is described as the intensity to which employees within an organization (hourly or salaried) are emotionally attached to their work resulting in efficiency and productivity (Macey & Schneider, 2008). The use of the UWES has demonstrated validity and reliability as an acceptable psychometric measure (Schaufeli, Bakker, & Salanova, 2006). The inventory consists of 17 self-report items rated on a 7-point Likert-type scale: 0 = Never; 1 = Almost Never (A few times a year or less); 2 = Rarely (Once a month or less); 3 = Sometimes (A few times a month); 4 = Often (Once a week); 5 = Very Often (A few times a week); 6 = Always (Every day). Higher scores indicated greater feelings of engagement in their current job. There are three dimensions identified within the engagement measure; the three subscales are vigor (3 items, e.g., "At work, I arrive full of energy"), dedication (3 items, e.g., "I am enthusiastic about my job"), and absorption (3 items, e.g., "I am mentally focused on my work"). Subscale composition is as follows: Vigor (items 1, 4, 8, 12,15,17), Dedication (2,5,7, 10, 13), and Absorption (3,6,9, 11, 14, 16). Internal consistency across 14,521 participants with employee engagement ($\alpha = 92$) has been excellent (Schaufeli, Bakker & Salanova, 2006). For the full sample in the current study, the mean score was 72.55 (SD = 11.14), $\alpha = .90$. Cronbach's alphas were $\alpha = .80$ for vigor, $\alpha =$.84 for dedication, and $\alpha = .73$ for absorption.

Professional Quality of Life Scale (PROQOL) Version 5

Burnout was assessed by the Professional Quality of Life Scale (PROQOL) Version 5 (Stamm, 2009). The PROQOL scale was developed to assess burnout (compassion satisfaction and compassion fatigue). Burnout is described as is a condition that can be experienced by

human services professionals in stressful situations, with 60% reporting they have experienced burnout during their careers (McCray, Cronholm, Bogner, Gallo, & Neill, 2008). The use of the PROQOL 5 has demonstrated validity and reliability as an acceptable psychometric measure (Stamm, 2002 & 2005). The inventory consists of 30 self-report items rated on a 5-point Likerttype scale: 1 = Never; 2 = Rarely; 3 = Sometimes; 4 = Often; 5 = Very Often. There are three facets identified within the burnout measure three subscales are Compassion Satisfaction (10 items, e.g., "I get satisfaction from being able to help people"), burnout (10 items, e.g., "I am happy"), and secondary traumatic stress (10 items, e.g., "I feel depressed because of the traumatic experiences in my life"). Subscale composition is as follows: Compassion Satisfaction (items 3,6, 12, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 27, 30), Burnout (items 1, 4, 8, 10, 15, 17, 19, 21, 26, 29), and Secondary Traumatic (items 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14, 23, 25, 28). Questions 1, 4, 15, 17, and 29 are reversed scored. For the full sample in the current study, the mean score was 59.38 (SD = 10), α = .77. The mean score for the Burnout sub-scale was 55.76, (SD = 10), $\alpha = .82$. The alpha reliabilities for the scales are as follows: Compassion Satisfaction $\alpha = .88$, and Secondary Traumatic Stress $\alpha = .82$.

Research Design

A research design aims to ensure that the evidence acquired allows the researcher an effective means to address the research problem. The complexity and length of research designs can vary; however, most sound designs will do the following things (Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, 2006):

- Identify the research problem and validate its selection,
- Review previously published literature related to the problem area,
- Unambiguously specify hypotheses/research questions essential to the problem,

- Effectively describe the data which will be necessary to test the hypotheses,
- Explain how the data will be obtained, and
- Describe the analysis methods applied to the data in determining whether the hypotheses are true or false (Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, 2006).

The experimental design enables the researcher to maintain control over all factors that may affect an experiment's result. In this design, the researcher tries to predict what may occur. The classic experimental design identifies an experimental group and a control group. The researcher administers the independent variable to the experimental group and not to the control group. Subsequently, a measurement of both groups on the same dependent variable is obtained during the analysis. True experiments must have control, randomization, and manipulation (Labaree, 2009).

The quasi-experimental design resembles experimental research but is not true experimental research. The researcher manipulates the independent variable, but the participants are not randomly assigned to conditions or orders of conditions (Cook & Campbell, 1979).

Because manipulation of the independent variable has occurred before the dependent variable is measured, quasi-experimental research eliminates the directionality problem. Nevertheless, quasi-experimental research does not eliminate the problem of confounding variables. Therefore, quasi-experiments are generally between correlational studies and true experiments in terms of internal validity. They are often conducted in field settings where random assignment is difficult or impossible. Quasi-experiments are often conducted to consider a treatment's effectiveness (Cook & Campbell, 1979).

In contrast, correlational research is described as a type of descriptive research. There are two main conditions where a researcher may choose to conduct correlational research:

- The researcher wants to determine if a relationship exists between two variables,
 but there is no causal relationship expectation.
- The researcher suspects that a causal relationship exists between two variables;
 however, it is impractical and unethical to conduct experimental research that changes one of the variables.

Correlational research is considered non-experimental because it focuses on the statistical relationship between two variables. Unlike experimental design and quasi-experiment design, correlational research does not include manipulating an independent variable.

Procedures

The design elected to answer this quantitative study's research questions was a non-experimental correlational design. A quantitative methodology was selected for this study for several reasons. This study determined a statistically significant relationship between the variables of emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout of three classifications of law enforcement officers in the United States. Moreover, this study provided empirical, measurable results that are reproducible for future research. Researchers such as Campbell and Stanley (1963) explicitly advocated for a focus on multivariate experimentation instead of the McCall (1923) period's approach of one variable at a time.

Additionally, this study examined the relationship using three validated scales.

Quantitative methodologies are utilized when numerical variables are measured on a scale

(Campbell, 2016). Furthermore, the purpose was to complete a correlational analysis to

determine if the variables were related and were predictive of the suggested outcome as detailed

in the research questions. A qualitative methodology was not chosen for this study because it investigated a statistical relationship between multiple variables, which required a quantitative methodology.

This study's data collection was conducted in 2020 after approval from the Institutional Review Board was received (Appendix 1). The researcher emphasized the confidentiality of data and anonymity of responses for those participating in the study. Also, the researcher assured participants that individual results would not be shared, and the findings published from this study would only incorporate aggregate data from all respondents. An incentive for participation was not offered in the study.

The demographic questionnaire was the first domain assessed and was followed by Emotional intelligence. The next assessment was the engagement questionnaire. The final measure participants were assessed on was burnout. The order of measures was intended to minimize social desirability and self-evaluation bias issues (Lavrakas, 2008) of which are challenges often prevalent in self-report measure designs.

Recruitment of participants was conducted online via the LinkedIn social networking platform, more specifically to law enforcement professionals serving in the United States within the following groups: Police1 Network and The Law Enforcement Network. A digital flyer bearing a link was created and disbursed to the groups. After selecting the link, participants were directed to Qualtrics and were provided with an Information Letter outlining the study's purpose, benefits of participation, and any foreseeable risks from participation. The letter also supplied participants with the researcher's information and information for the Institutional Review Board at Auburn University (see Appendix 1). After consent was obtained, the participants initiated the self-report questionnaires through Qualtrics (see Appendix 2 for the full survey packet).

Analysis of Data

Descriptive statistics and correlations were computed using the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) Statistics 23. The data was initially screened for missing cases and multivariate outliers. The data consisted of 63 missing cases out of 335 cases. There were no multivariate outliers discovered from a review of the pertinent boxplots. To examine RQ1, (i.e., "What demographic characteristics are predictive of police officer EI, employee engagement and burnout), a multiple linear regression was conducted using data collected from participant surveys. To examine RQ2 (i.e., "After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does emotional intelligence predict a) engagement and c) burnout among police officers?"), A two-stage hierarchical multiple regression was conducted using the participants' data. RQ3 was examined (i.e., "After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does police officer job classification (i.e., Administrative, Patrol, or Investigations) moderate the relationship between emotional intelligence and a) emotional intelligence, b) employee engagement, and c) burnout among police officers?"). Results from the study are provided in the following chapter using a three-stage hierarchical multiple regression with an interaction variable for emotional intelligence and class.

CHAPTER 4. RESULTS

Introduction

Chapter 1 presented the study by providing the over-all background information of the topic, statement of the problem, the purpose of the study, research questions, significance of the study, limitations, and definition of terms. Chapter 2 delivers a literature review systematized into five key sections: police organizations, emotional intelligence (EI), employee engagement, burnout, and Andragogy's role in law enforcement training. Chapter 3 offers the current study's research methods, the process of participant recruitment, and the target population and demographics of the sample. Chapter 3 also describes the current study measures, the basis of the instruments used for each measure, each measure's reliability to include corresponding Cronbach's alpha coefficients, and examples of the question from the respective instrument. Chapter 4 offers the findings of this nonexperimental quantitative study based on instruments used to survey the sample population.

Purpose of Study

The purpose of this study was to examine the relationship among criminal investigators' and patrol officers' emotional intelligence traits as measured by the Assessing Emotions (SSEIT) Scale (Schutte, Malouff, & Bhullar, 2009). The study also explored the relationship between employee engagement as measured by the Work and Well-being Survey (UWES). Finally, this study sought to examine burnout as measured by the Professional Quality of Life Scale (PROQOL) Version 5 (2009).

Numerous studies support the concepts of emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout as the sole or correlating variable; however, there are limited studies wherein these three concepts are considered and are compared to these two distinct occupations in law

enforcement. The concepts of emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout and their relationship to law enforcement officers have been researched; however, there is limited research on the correlation between these concepts among administrative officers, criminal investigators, and patrol officers. This study's findings may imply vetting during hiring processes and promotions, targeted in-service training, specialized assignments, disciplinary procedures, and descriptive analysis in performance evaluations.

Research Questions

- 1. What demographic characteristics (e.g., gender, age, education level, and years of experience) are predictive of police officers a) emotional intelligence, b) employee engagement, and c) burnout?
- 2. After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does emotional intelligence predict a) engagement and b) burnout among police officers?
- 3. After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does police officer job classification (e.g., administrative, patrol, or criminal investigators) moderate the relationship between emotional intelligence and a) employee engagement, and b) burnout among police officers?

This study is structured to focus on the detailed research questions to address a much broader research issue. The forthcoming paragraphs of this chapter summarize the collected data by describing the data analysis and the results. Moreover, this chapter includes tables and figures to represent the descriptions and results visually. Finally, the chapter concludes by discussing interactions where the IV's effect on the DV differs at different values of another independent variable in the model.

Data Analysis

Demographic information was acquired to support the research questions of this study. The purpose of this study was to examine the relationship between emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout concerning three law enforcement categories: administrative officer, criminal investigator, and patrol officer. The current study utilized Qualtrics to host the web-based survey. All participants selected the link and a post on the LinkedIn social networking platform. Those who consented to participate in the study were provided the survey instruments online through Qualtrics. Participation was 100% voluntary; all participants were 19 years or older and were selected by convenience sampling, with all respondents reported being law enforcement professionals in the United States.

Compensation was not offered or provided to participants upon completion of the survey. On average, each participant spent between 6 to 10 minutes to complete the survey. The survey remained open for data collection for 21 days when the survey was closed. Data were then downloaded to a data file for analysis. The statistical software used to analyze the data was The Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) Statistics 23.

Multiple regression was used to examine the relationships between two or more independent variables to predict the dependent variable's value. Multiple regression was the appropriate test for all three research questions as there were categorical and continuous independent variables and only one dependent variable, which was continuous. Since this study was exploratory, a multiple regression was conducted for three of the research questions (Aron & Aron, 1999); however, Research Question 3 does include an interaction term.

Data Analysis Results

Research Question 1: What demographic characteristics (gender, age, education level, and years of experience) are predictive of police officers a) emotional intelligence, b) employee engagement, and c) burnout?

Three separate multiple linear regression analyses were used to develop a model for predicting a) emotional intelligence, b) employee engagement, and c) burnout. The regression analyses included all variables related to the research question. Gender represented in the sample population was female (0), male (1). Classification represented in the same population was administrative (3), criminal investigator (2), and Patrol officer (1). Age was a continuous variable, and years of professional experience were represented as (1) < 1 year, (2) 1-5 years, (3) 6-10 years, (4) 11-15 years, (5) 16-20 years, (6) 21-25 years, (7) 26-30 years, and (8) > 30 years of professional experience.

Assumptions (RQ1, EI)

Testing assumptions for multiple linear regression were met for normality, linearity, and homoscedasticity and occurred prior to conducting the multiple linear regression. Tests to see if the data met the assumption of collinearity indicated that multicollinearity was not a concern except for age and years of experience, (Age = .34, VIF = 2.93; Gender = .98, VIF = 1.02; Years of Experience = .34, VIF = 2.95; Education = .97, VIF = 1.03).

Figure 1

Normal Probability Plot for Emotional Intelligence Variable

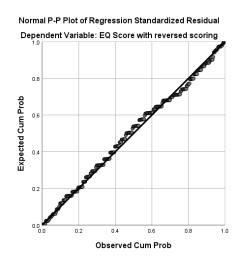
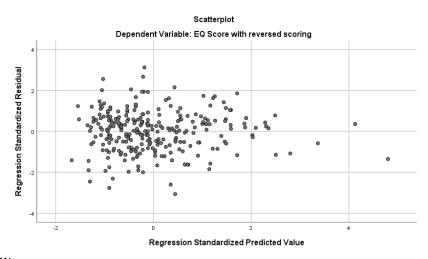


Figure 2
Scatterplot Diagram for Emotional Intelligence Variable



Emotional Intelligence

The multiple regression equation for predicting emotional intelligence scores can be expressed as follows:

Emotional Intelligence = $\beta 0 + b2XAge + b3XGender + b5XEdu + b6Exp$

Multiple linear regression analysis was used to develop a model for predicting police officer's emotional intelligence from gender, education level, and years of experience. A

multiple linear regression model was fit, $(F(4, 265) = 0.14, p = 0.706, R^2 = .008)$. There was no evidence found which indicated that any of the considered demographic variables were predictors of emotional intelligence. A summary of regression coefficients is presented in Table 5.

Table 5Coefficients for Emotional Intelligence Model Variables

	В	β	t	р	Bivariate r	Partial r
Age	.145	.138	1.317	.189	.041	.081
Gender	-1.347	038	622	.535	040	038
Exp	773	115	-1.094	.275	008	067
Education	041	007	117	.907	.000	007

Employee Engagement Assumptions (RQ1, ENG)

Testing assumptions for multiple linear regression were met for normality, linearity, and homoscedasticity and occurred prior to conducting the multiple linear regression. Tests to see if the data met the assumption of collinearity indicated that multicollinearity was not a concern (AGE = .34, VIF = 2.95; Gender = .98, VIF = 1.02; Years of Experience = .34, VIF = 1.04; Education = .97, VIF = 1.03).

Figure 3

Normal Probability Plot for Engagement Variable

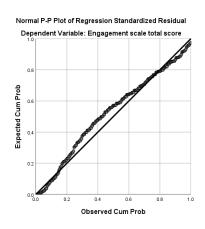
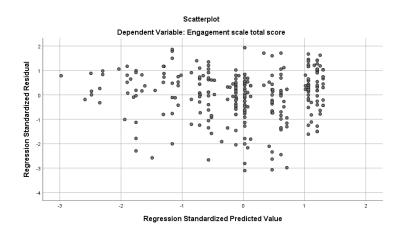


Figure 4
Scatterplot Diagram for Engagement Variable



Employee Engagement

The multiple regression equation for predicting employee engagement scores can be expressed as follows:

Employee Engagement = $\beta 0 + b2XAge + b3XGender + b5XEdu + b6Exp$

Multiple linear regression analysis was used to develop a model for predicting police officer's employee engagement from gender, education level, and years of experience. Regression results indicate that the overall model significantly predicts police officer employee engagement, $R^2 = .059$, $R^2_{adj} = .048$, F(3, 266) = 5.59, p < 0.005. This model accounts for 56% of the variance in police officer employee engagement. A summary of regression coefficients is presented in Table 6.

Table 6Coefficients for Engagement Model Variables

	В	β	t	р	Bivariate r	Partial r
Age	.635	.470	4.786	<.001	.349	.282
Gender	2.643	.058	1.012	.312	.082	.058
Exp	-1.261	145	-1.479	.140	.236	085
Education	313	043	733	.464	.010	042

Assumptions (RQ1, BO)

Testing assumptions for multiple linear regression were met for normality, linearity, and homoscedasticity and occurred before conducting the multiple linear regression. A multiple linear regression model was fit, $(F(4, 265) = 0.16, p = 0.080, R^2 = .031)$. There was no evidence found which indicated that any of the considered demographic variables were predictors of burnout. A summary of regression coefficients is presented in Table 7.

Table 7Coefficients for Burnout Model Variables

	В	β	t	р	Bivariate r	Partial r
Age	214	222	-2.137	.034	144	129
Gender	-1.132	035	574	.566	048	035
Exp	.513	.083	.797	.426	089	.048
Education	.422	.080	1.307	.192	.058	.079

Figure 5

Normal Probability Plot for Burnout Variable

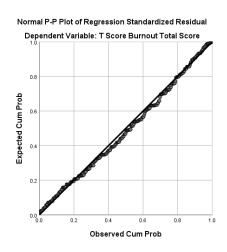
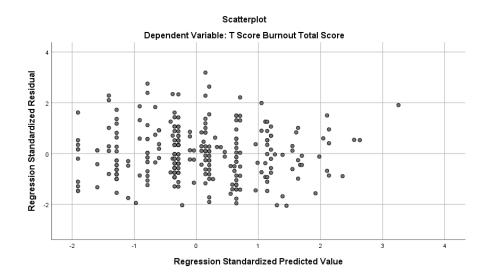


Figure 6

Scatterplot Diagram for Burnout Variable



Research Question 2: After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does emotional intelligence predict a) engagement and b) burnout among police officers?

Preceding the analysis of RQ2 with a hierarchical multiple regression model, testing for relevant assumptions was met. All statistics for normality, linearity, and homoscedasticity were within the appropriate parameters. Additionally, residual and scatterplots were examined to correlate with meeting regression assumptions.

Predicting Engagement

A two-stage hierarchical multiple regression was conducted with Employee Engagement as the dependent variable. Age, gender, years of experience, and education were entered at stage one of the regression model to control characteristic differences. The predictor variable, Emotional Intelligence (EQ_TOT), was entered at stage two. Regression statistics were reported in Table 7.

Table 7Summary of Hierarchical Regression Analysis for Variables predicting Engagement

Variable	β	t	sr^2	R	R^2	ΔR^2
Step 1				.373	.139	.139
Age	.477	4.867***	.277			
Gender	.058	1.004	.057			
Experience	145	-1.481	084			
Education	044	753	043			
Step 2				.439	.193	.054
Age	.477	4.691***	.259			
Gender	.067	1.195	.066			
Experience	121	-1.265	070			
Education	041	727	040			
EI	.232	4.188***	.232			

^{*}*p*<.05, ***p*<01, ****p*<.001

The results of step one indicated that the variance accounted for (R^2) with the first four independent variables (Age, Gender, Experience, Education) equaled .139 (adjusted $R^2 = .126$), which was significantly different from zero, F(4, 265) = 10.69, p<.001. Age was the only statistically significant independent variable, $\beta = .477$, p<.001, and accounted for 13.9% of employee engagement variation. In step two, the emotional intelligence scores were entered into the regression equation. The change in variance accounted for (ΔR^2) was equal to .054, which was significantly different from zero, F(5, 264) = 12.60, p<.05). The addition of Emotional Intelligence scores explained an additional 5.4%. Together the five independent

variables accounted for 19.3% of the employee engagement variance. The remaining 80.7% percent can be attributed to unknown variables or inherent variability.

Predicting Burnout

A two-stage hierarchical multiple regression was conducted with Burnout as the dependent variable. Age, Gender, Years of Experience, and Education were entered at stage one of the regression model to control characteristic differences. The predictor variable, Emotional Intelligence (EQ_TOT), was entered at stage two. Regression statistics were reported in Table 8.

The results of step one indicated that the variance accounted for (R^2) with the first four independent variables (Age, Gender, Experience, Education) equaled .039 (adjusted R^2 = .024), which was significantly different from zero, F(4,256) = 2.578, p<.05. Age was the only statistically significant independent variable, β = -.328, p<.01, and accounted for 3.9% of burnout variation. In step two, the emotional intelligence scores were entered into the regression equation. The change in variance accounted for (ΔR^2) was equal to .298, which was significantly different from zero, F(5, 255) = 25.91, p<.001). The addition of Emotional Intelligence scores explained an additional 29.8%. Together the five independent variables accounted for 33.7% of the burnout variance. The remaining 66.3% percent can be attributed to unknown variables or inherent variability.

Table 8

Summary of Hierarchical Regression Analysis for Variables predicting Burnout

Variable	β	t	sr ²	R	R^2	ΔR^2
Step 1				.197	.039	.039
Age	328	-2.829**	173			
Gender	.001	.010	.001			
Experience	.190	1.637	.100			
Education	.057	.907	.056			
Step 2				.580	.337	.298
Age	225	-2.323	118			
Gender	010	192	010			
Experience	.097	1.004	.051			
Education	.070	1.351	.069			
EI	549	-1.708***	546			

^{*}*p*<.05, ***p*<01, ****p*<.001

Research Question 3: After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does police officer job classification (e.g., administrative, patrol, or criminal investigators) moderate the relationship between emotional intelligence and a) employee engagement and b) burnout among police officers?

Preceding the analysis of RQ3 with a hierarchical multiple regression model, testing for relevant assumptions was met. All statistics for normality, linearity, and homoscedasticity were within the appropriate parameters. Additionally, residual and scatterplots were examined to correlate with meeting regression assumptions.

Predicting Engagement

A two-stage hierarchical multiple regression was conducted with Employee

Engagement as the dependent variable. Age, Years of Experience, Gender, and Education were
entered at the first stage of the regression model to control for characteristic differences.

Emotional Intellegence, Class 1 (Patrol), the Patrol Class Emotional Intellegence Interaction

Term, Class 2 (Criminal Investigators), and the Criminal Investigator Class Emotional

Intelligence Interaction Term were entered at stage two of the regression model. Regression
statistics were reported in Table 9.

Interaction Between Class and EI on Engagement Among Police Officers

The results of stage one indicated that the variance accounted for (R^2) with the first independent variable (Age) equaled .134 (adjusted $R^2 = .121$, which was significantly different from zero, F(4, 265) = 10.26, p < .001. The model accounted for 13.4% of the variance.

In stage two, The change in variance accounted for (ΔR^2) was equal to .216, which was significantly different from zero, F(9, 260) = 7.97, p<.001). The model accounted for 21.6 % of the variance.

The models accounted for total of 35% of the variance. The remaining 65% percent can be attributed to unknown variables or inherent variability.

 Table 9

 Interaction Effect of Class and Emotional Intelligence on Engagement in Police Officers

Variable	β	t	sr2	R	R^2	ΔR^2
Step 1				.366	.134	.134
Age	.470	4.786***	.274			
Experience	145	-1.48	085			
Gender	.058	1.012	.058			
Education	043	733	042			
Step 2				.465	.189	.082
Age	.430	4.534***	.249			
Experience	171	-1.76	095			
Gender	.059	1.069	050			
Education	051	911	.225			
EQ	.241	4.112***	153			
Patrol	174	-2.235	009			
Patrol EQ Interaction	333	446	.249			
Criminal Investigators	732	-1.129	062			
Inv EQ Interaction	764	-1.170	.260			

^{*}p<.05, **p<01, ***p<.001

Predicting Burnout

A two-stage hierarchical multiple regression was conducted with burnout as the dependent variable. Age, Years of Experience, Gender and Education were entered in the first stage and. Regression statistics were reported in Table 10.

Table 10Interaction Effect of Class and Emotional Intelligence on Burnout in Police Officers

Variable	β	t	sr^2	R	R^2	ΔR^2
Step 1				.176	.031	.031
Age	118	-2.137*	129			
Experience	.282	.797	.048			
Gender	622	574	035			
Education	.232	-1.307	.079			
Step 2				.587	.341	.314
Age	145	-1.672	084			
Experience	.013	.149	.007			
Gender	057	-1.125	056			
Education	.075	1.474	.074			
EQ	557	10.154***	509			
Patrol	016	306	-015			
Patrol EQ Interaction	003	059	003			
Criminal Investigators	.001	.016	-020			
Inv EQ Interaction	.029	.477	.024			

^{*}p<.05, **p<01, ***p<.001

Interaction Between Class and EI on Burnout Among Police Officers

The results of stage one indicated that the variance accounted for (R^2) with the first independent variable (Age) equaled .031 (adjusted $R^2 = .016$), F(4,265) = 2.12, p = 080. There was no evidence found which indicated that any of the considered variables were predictors of burnout.

In stage two, class (patrol), class (investigators), and emotional intelligence were entered into the regression equation. The change in variance accounted for (ΔR^2) was equal to .314, which was significantly different from zero, F(5, 260 = 16.181, p < .001).

The model accounted for 34.4% of the variance in the response variables. The remaining 65.6% percent can be attributed to unknown variables or inherent variability.

CHAPTER 5. SUMMARY, IMPLICATIONS, LIMITATIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS Introduction

Chapter 1 presented the study by providing the over-all background information of the topic, statement of the problem, the purpose of the study, research questions, significance of the study, limitations, and definition of terms. Chapter 2 delivers a literature review systematized into five key sections: police organizations, emotional intelligence (EI), employee engagement, burnout, and Andragogy's role in law enforcement training. Chapter 3 offers the current study's research methods, the process of participant recruitment, and the target population and demographics of the sample. Additionally, Chapter 3 describes the current study measures, the basis of the instruments used for each measure, each measure's reliability to include corresponding Cronbach's alpha coefficients, and examples of the questions for respective instruments. Chapter 4 offers the findings of this nonexperimental quantitative study based on instruments used to survey the sample population. Chapter 5 serves as the conclusion and summarizes the findings of the study. This chapter will discuss how the findings can be implemented, the study's perceived limitations, and finally, future recommendations.

Purpose of Study

The purpose of this study was to examine the relationship among administrative officers', criminal investigators,' and patrol officers' emotional intelligence traits as measured by the Assessing Emotions (SSEIT) Scale (Schutte, Malouff, & Bhullar, 2009). The study also explored the relationship between employee engagement as measured by the Work and Well-being Survey (UWES). Finally, this study sought to examine burnout as measured by the Professional Quality of Life Scale (PROQOL) Version 5 (2009).

Numerous studies support the concepts of emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout as the sole or correlating variable; however, there are limited studies wherein these three concepts are considered and are compared to these two distinct occupations in law enforcement. The concepts of emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout and their relationship to law enforcement officers have been researched; however, there is limited research on the correlation between these concepts among administrative officers, criminal investigators, and patrol officers. This study's findings may imply vetting during hiring processes and promotions, targeted in-service training, specialized assignments, disciplinary procedures, and descriptive analysis in performance evaluations.

Research Questions

- 1. What demographic characteristics (e.g., gender, age, education level, and years of experience) are predictive of police officers a) emotional intelligence, b) employee engagement, and c) burnout?
- 2. After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does emotional intelligence predict a) engagement and b) burnout among police officers?
- 3. After accounting for differences in demographic characteristics, does police officer job classification (e.g., administrative, patrol, or criminal investigators) moderate the relationship between emotional intelligence and a) employee engagement, and b) burnout among police officers?

Summary

This study's primary goal was to examine the relationships between three classifications of law enforcement's emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout. In this study, a sample population of 272 law enforcement professionals employed in the United States

completed self-report questionnaires delivered via the Qualtrics platform. The respondents completed a survey packet containing a demographic survey and three instruments. The demographic survey was created to capture variables such as age, gender, length of employment, race, education, and classification.

The first instrument, the Assessing Emotions Scale (SSEIT), measured the level of emotional intelligence mastery possessed by an individual. The second instrument, the Work and Well-Being Survey (UWES-9) considered the respondent's overall engagement concerning their current career. The final instrument was the PROQOL questionnaire, which considered the amount of burnout reported by each participant.

The analysis suggested that education, gender, and years of service did not affect the level of emotional intelligence, engageme, or burnout of law enforcement officers who participated in this study. There was evidence that age did impact the levels of emotional intelligence, engagement, and burnout throughout the three different professions. This study indicated that age and emotional intelligence influenced employee engagement and burnout. Additionally, the results indicated that class had a moderation effect on emotional intelligence and its relationship to employee engagement and burnout.

Implications

The purpose of this study was to examine the relationship among administrative officers', criminal investigators,' and patrol officers' emotional intelligence traits as measured by the Assessing Emotions (SSEIT) Scale (Schutte, Malouff, & Bhullar, 2009), employee engagement, and burnout. The study also explored the relationship between employee engagement as measured by the Work and Well-being Survey (UWES). Finally, this study sought to examine burnout as measured by the Professional Quality of Life Scale (PROQOL) Version 5 (2009).

The current state of police work and officer responsibilities have changed dramatically. Effectively trained police officers are more in demand. Along with this demand is a need to have trained and sufficient personnel. Across the country, law enforcement officers perform the jobs they have trained. Police officers lay their lives on the line daily to save and protect the public but are faced with on and off-duty stressors that subconsciously interfere with work performances. According to Redman (2018), officers who could not cope with job-related stress turned to maladaptive coping alternatives such as alcohol and other self-medicating behaviors caused by off-duty conflicts. Because of the negative perceptions, officers learned how to secretly deal with the emotional problems that caused them to create unnecessary strain in their everyday lives. This stress can lead to burnout and ultimately to substance abuse, suicide, and symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD); Bloodgood, 2006).

Law enforcement officers made up approximately 3.5% of the workforce population and were accountable for the second leading cause of career suicide in the United States (The Blue, 2019). Police suicide has outnumbered line-of-duty deaths for the past three years, and Police officers were 1.5 times more likely to commit suicide than other members in the population. A study conducted by Arce (2018) concluded that first responders experiencing higher burnout are significantly more likely to report feeling more callous towards people, have difficulty concentrating, and report more often feeling overwhelmed by emotions. The study also concludes that responders with PTSD symptoms are more likely to experience burnout.

The incidents of several high-profile cases that have been exposed in the national media regarding police use of force have indicated the need for transparency and reform in police training, as the prevalence of police misconduct complaints stems from the use of force incidents (Arnold, 2014). The increase in aggressive thoughts and behaviors and decreased empathetic

response results from repetitive exposure to violence (Bartholow, Sestir, & Davis, 2005).

Gutshall, Hampton, Sebetan, Stein, and Broxtermann (2017) indicated that aggressive behavior stemming from an increase in burnout symptoms emphasizes the need for preventive measures for law enforcement officers prone to stress-related disorders. Their study further suggested that stress impacts problem-solving capabilities resulting in wrongful arrests, improper shootings, poor memory recall, and excessive use of force.

Limitations

This study's limitations include that it was not representative of the national demographics and that frequently found in the literature concerns self-report measures. A relationship between adult social desirability and response bias (Van de Mortel, 2008) has been found in this research area. A limitation of this study was participants experiencing burnout might have a reluctant to provide accurate data for various reasons to include anonymity issues, which would influence their reports. Another limitation of this study was that correlational design does not determine causation.

Recommendations

Recommendations for Future Study

Emotional intelligence can serve as a safeguard against burnout. Future research should focus on the relationship between law enforcement professionals' emotional self-efficacy and compassionate fatigue based on the current research findings. Another recommendation is to conduct a longitudinal study following law enforcement professionals over two years after EI training and self-care education to assess the impact of EI training and burnout. Additionally, a future researcher could conduct a qualitative study interviewing law enforcement professionals about their personal experiences and strategies when recognizing that they are presenting burnout

signs. Finally, a researcher could examine if there is a difference in trait EI and burnout levels of those with EI training and those without using a predictive correlational research design.

Recommendations for future practice

Burnout is a risk for the law enforcement profession, and there is a need to implement protective factors to decrease the risk of burnout. One such protective factor is educating recruits on emotional intelligence during their career onboarding. Law enforcement Administrators could use this study's results as baseline information to develop and conduct training to enhance law enforcement officers' emotional intelligence to reduce burnout. Organizations could consider emotional intelligence training as a component of their in-service training. Also, organization leadership could encourage their personnel experiencing burnout to engage in self-care activities as a relief from work demands and provide opportunities for stress relief and wellness.

According to Panchal, Kamal, Cox, and Garfield (2020), approximately 4 out of 10 adults in the United States reported anxiety or depressive disorder symptoms during the pandemic, which increased from one out of ten the previous year. Death or harm are the critical mediators of mental health consequences for occurrences such as natural disasters and terrorist attacks (Goldmann & Galea, 2014); however, collective actions can also take an extensive toll on mental health even in the absence of violence (Hou, Hall, Liang, Li, Liu, Galea, 2021). Stressors and stress appraisal processes are likely explanations for protests' mental health impact. Therefore, stressors are presented as environmental demands and can suggest a greater risk of mental disorder following stress exposure (Schmidt, 2007). These findings' significance could support law enforcement professionals' need to develop further andragogical based training curriculums that emphasize emotional intelligence, peer support, and self-care to propagate another evolution of policing.

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Appendix 1

Auburn University Human Research Protection Program EXEMPTION REVIEW APPLICATION For information or help completing this form, contact: THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH COMPLIANCE, Location: 115 Ramsay Hall Phone: 334-844-5966 Email: IRBAdmin@auburn.edu Submit completed application and supporting material as one attachment to [RBsubmit@auburn.edu. 1. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION Today'sDate 10/6/2020 a. Project Title Examining the Relationship between Emotional Intelligence, Employee Engagement, and Burnout: A Comparison of Administrative Officers, Criminal Investigators and Patrol Officers in Law Enforcement b. Principal Investigator_ Clarence J.C. Stewart, IV _Degree(s)BS and MPA Rank/Title Doctoral Candidate __Department/School EFLT/College of Education Phone Number (334) 750-5484 AU Email cis0013@auburn.edu Faculty Principal Investigator (required if Plisa student) James E. Witte, PhD __Department/School Department of Aviation/College of Liberal Arts Title Professor and Chair Phone Number (334) 844-1905 AU Email witteje@auburn.edu Dept Head_James Satterfield, Ed. D. Department/School College of Education AU Email jws0089@aubum.edu Phone Number (334) 844-4460 c. Project Personnel (other PI) - Identify all individuals who will be involved with the conduct of the research and include their role on the project. Role may include design, recruitment, consent process, data collection, data analysis, and reporting. Attach a table if needed for additional personnel. Personnel Name N/A Degree (s) Rank/Title Department/School Role NO If no, name ofhome institution Plan for IRB approval for non-AU affiliated personnel? Personnel Name N/A _Degree (s) Rank/Title___ Department/School Role NO If no, name ofhome institution AU affiliated? YES Plan for IRB approval for non-AU affiliated personnel? Personnel Name N/A Degree (s) Rank/Title Department/School Role AU affiliated? YES NO If no, name ofhome institution _ Plan for IRB approval for non-AU affiliated personnel? d. Training - Have all Key Personnel completed CITI human subjects training (including elective modules related to this research) within the last 3 years? YES 🗸 The Auburn University Institutional Review Board has approved this Document for use from 10/08/2020 to 20-484 EX 2010 Protocol # page 1 of 8 Version Date (date document created): 10/8/2020

AU Exemption

this proposer ame_N	roject funded by an external sponsor? TYES No If YES, provide the name of the sponsor, (governmental, non-profit, corporate, other), and an identification number for theaward. A Type N/A Grant # N/A	type of
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. Mark	the category or categories below that describe the proposedresearch:	
	 Research conducted in established or commonly accepted educational settings, involving n educational practices. The research is not likely to adversely impact students' opportunity to le assessment of educators providing instruction. 104(d)(1) 	ormal arn or
	 Research only includes interactions involving educational tests, surveys, interviews, public observation if at least ONE of the following criteria. (The research includes data collection only include visual or auditory recording; may NOT include intervention and only includes interaction Mark the applicable sub-category below (i, ii, or iii). 104(d)(2) 	
	(i) Recorded information cannot readily identify the participant (directlyorindirectly/linked); OR	
	 surveys and interviews: no children; educational tests or observation of public behavior: can only include children when investigators do not participate in activities being observed. 	
	(ii) Any disclosures of responses outside would not reasonably place participant at risk; OR	
	(iii) Information is recorded with identifiers or code linked to identifiers and IRB conducts limited review; no children. Requires limited review by the IRB.*	
	3. Research involving Benign Behavioral Interventions (BBI)** through verbal, written response (including data entry or audiovisual recording) from adult subjects who prospectively agree and C the following criteria is met. (This research does not include children and does not include med interventions. Research cannot have deception unless the participant prospectively agrees tha will be unaware of or misled regarding the nature and purpose of the research) Mark the applicable sub-category below (A, B, or C). 104(d)(3)(i)	ONE of dical
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	4. Secondary research for which consent is not required: use of identifiable information or identibio-speciment hat have been or will be collected for some other 'primary' or 'initial' activity, if one of following criteria is met. Allows retrospective and prospective secondary use. Mark the application sub-category below (I, ii, iii, or iv). 104(d)(4)	ofthe
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	Collection of sensitive aspects of the participant's own behavior, such as illegal conduct, drug use, sexual behavior or alcohol use.	☐YES ☑NO
	Deception of participants	☐YES ☑NO
process, c The purpose of by the Assess and to examine the UWES-17	cribe the proposed research, Including purpose, participant populations of this study is to examine the relationship among law enforcement officers' emotional ing Emotions (SSEIT) Scale, employee engagement as measured by the Utrecht Wie burnout as measured by the Professional Quality of Life Scale (PROQOL) version 5 consists of 17 flems, and the PROQOL (burnout) consists of 30 litems, all of which use approved for educational and research purposes.	intelligence traits as measured it Engagement Scale (UWES), . The SSEIT is a 33-item survey,
interest are ac questionnaire state the purp to a consent p	n of this study will consist of law enforcement officers from various regions of the Unite e, gender, time in service, level of education and current position. The latter will be ob Participants will be recruited via email and postings on Social Media Software Platfon of the research as well as provide an estimated time of completion. Those that wis age on Qualitics. Alter consent is provided the assessment will begin with the demograph VES, and then the PROQOL (burnout) survey.	tained from a demographic m (Linkedin). The email will sh to participate will be directed
	data will be exported from Qualtrics and IBM SPSS will be used to perform the data a riptives and multiple linear regression) will be documented and saved for future refere	
	any waivers that apply and describe how the project meets the o	riteria for the waiver.
	Waiver of Consent (Including existing de-identified data)	
•	Walver of Documentation of Consent (Use of Information Letter)	
	Walver of Parental Permission	
All ref	rospective information will be de-identified.	
Weiver of doc	umentation of consent will be through the use of an Information Letter.	
		á
	5	
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ethnicity of the participa		e selected. If applicable	, include gender,	race, and	
following groups: Polic	be placed on the LinkedIr e1 Network and The Law	Enforcement Network.	Participants will	choose	
	participate in this study of owever, all of the particip				
	criminal investigators, ar				
-	elve deception? YES the debriefing process.	NO If YES, please prov	ide the rationale f	or	
N/A					
		10/8/2020)	page 5 of 8	
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not unnecessarily expose the	imized by using procedures and instrume a participants to risks. Additionally, adequ tect the confidentiality of the data and the	nts which are consistent with sound research ate safeguards (passwords and encryption) has participants.	design and do ave been placed
Describe the provision storage.	ns to maintain confidentiality of	data, including collection, transmis	sion, and
		server that requires a password and dual aut free platform available to Auburn University s	
A J fix amption konn Vary on 07.14 2020	Mars in Pare (date discollent created	10/8/2020	page <u>6</u> of <u>8</u>

Describe why none of the research procedures would cause a participant either physical or psychological discomfort or be perceived as discomfort above and beyond what the person would experience in daily life. 10. Describe the provisions included in the research to project the privacy interests of participants (e.g., others will not overhear conversations with potential participants, individuals will not be publicly identified or embarrassed).

The survey(s) will be distributed through Qualtrics and the participants will be able to complete the survey at their leisure and in a setting in which they find suitable and appropriate. The identities of the participants will not be known to the principal investigator or the faculty principal investigator. Any data that is obtained which may readily identify a participant of the study, will be de-identified and removed so that no link can be made to identify the source.

11. Will the research involve interacting (communication or direct involvement) with participants?
PYES NO If YES, describe the consent process and information to be presented to subjects. This includes identifying that the activities involve research; that participation is voluntary; describing the procedures to be performed; and the PI name and contact information. Participants will be recruited via email and postings on Social Media Software Platform (Linkedin). The postflyer will state the purpose of the research and those that wish to participate will be directed to the information letter (attached) and the consent page on Qualtrics. After consent is provided the assessment will begin with the demographic survey, followed by the SSEIT, the UWES, and then the PROQOL (burnout) survey.

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12. Additional Information and/or attachments.

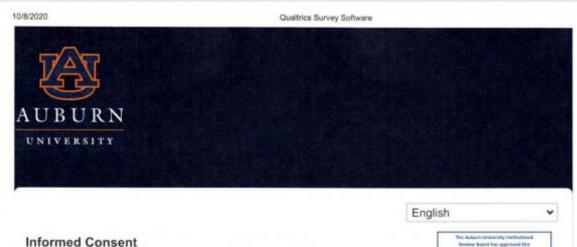
In the space below, provide any additional information you believe may help the IRB review of the proposed research. If attachments are included, list the attachments below. Attachments may include recruitment materials, consent documents, site permissions, IRB approvals from other institutions, etc.

The following documents are attached with this submission:

- 1. Application;
- 2. Consent Document (information letter);
- 3. Recruitment Materials (flyer for post);
- 4. Copy of Electronic Survey); and
- 5. CITI training documentations.

		1
Principal investigator's Signature	THE STREET	Date 10/5/2020
If PI is a student, Faculty Principalinvestigator's Sig	A SAME	October 5, 2020
Department Head's Signature		Date10/5/2020
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Appendix 2



Welcome to the research study!

INFORMATION LETTER for a Research Study entitled

"Examining the relationship between emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout: A comparison of administrative officers, criminal investigators, and patrol officers in law enforcement"

You are invited to participate in a research study to investigate the relationship between emotional intelligence, employee engagement, and burnout comparing administrative officers, criminal investigators, and patrol officers within law enforcement settings in order to suggest effective training and communication programs to enhance productivity and retention within organizations. This study is being conducted by Clarence J.C. Stewart, IV, a PhD candidate of the Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology at Auburn University, under the direction of Professor James Witte, PhD, of the Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology at Auburn University. You were selected as a possible participant because you are currently a law enforcement professional, and you are age 19 or older.

If you decide to participate in this research study, you will be asked to take a confidential online survey. Your total time commitment will be approximately 10-15 minutes.

Your participation in this study is completely confidential and voluntary. There are no foreseeable risks associated with this study. However, if you feel uncomfortable answering

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any questions, you can withdraw from the survey at any time by not continuing to answer questions and closing your browser. Once you have submitted confidential data, it cannot be withdrawn since it will be unidentifiable. Your decision about whether or not to participate will not jeopardize your future relations with Auburn University, the Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Technology or your employer.

There will be no costs for participation. Information collected through your participation may be used to fulfill and educational requirement, professional journal publication and national or international professional presentations.

If you have any questions about this study, please contact Clarence Stewart at cjs0013@auburn.edu or Dr. James E. Witte, Professor, at witteje@auburn.edu. If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the Auburn University Office of Research Compliance or the Institutional Review Board by phone at (334) 844-5966 or email at IRBadmin@auburn.edu or IRBChair@auburn.edu.

The Auburn University Institutional Review Board has approved this document for use, 10/08/2020 to 10/08/2021, AU IRB Protocol Number 20-484.

By clicking the button below, you acknowledge that your participation in the study is voluntary, you are 19 years of age, and that you are aware that you may choose to terminate your participation in the study at any time and for any reason.

Please note that this survey will be best displayed on a laptop or desktop computer. Some features may be less compatible for use on a mobile device.

O I consent, begin the study

O I do not consent, I do not wish to participate

Demographic Questionnaire

Please answer the following questions about yourself as honestly as possible. All responses will remain confidential and will not be seen by anyone in your organization. Please read each question carefully and mark only ONE answer per question.

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What is your gender?
O Male
O Female
O Prefer not to answer
What is your age?
mat is your ago:
What is your length of employment with your CURRENT employer?
O less than 1 year
O 1-5 years
O 6-10 years
O 11-15 years
O 16-20 years
O 21-25 years
O 26-30 years
O over 30 years
How many years of experience do you have in your profession?
O less than 1 year
O 1-5 years
O 6-10 years
O 11-15 years
O 16-20 years
O 21-25 years
O 26-30 years
O over 30 years

Which classification most accurately describes your current position?

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10/8/2020	Qualtrics Survey Software
O Patrol	
O Investigations	
O Administrative	
O Other	
How many years of general workforce experi	ience do you possess?
O less than 1 year	
O 1-5 years	
O 6-10 years	
O 11-15 years	
O 16-20 years	
O 21-25 years	
O 26-30 years	
O over 30 years	
What is your current employment status?	
O Employed full time	
O Employed part time	
O Retired	
What is your racial/ethnic origin?	
O White/Caucasian	
O Black/African American	
O Hispanic/Latino	
O American Indian or Alaska Native	
O Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	
O Asian	
O Biracial/Multiracial	
O Other, please specify	

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If given the opportunity, would you take a comparable job elsewhere?
O Yes
O Not Sure
O No
What is your highest level of education?
O Less than high school
O High school graduate
O Some college
O 2 year degree
O 4 year degree
O Professional degree
O Specialist/Technical
O Masters Degree
O Doctorate
O Other
In which region of the United States do you work?
In which region of the United States do you work? O New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)
New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)
New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT) East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN)
O New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT) O East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN) O Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA)
O New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT) O East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN) O Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA) O East North Central (IN, IL, MI, OH, WI)
 New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT) East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN) Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA) East North Central (IN, IL, MI, OH, WI) Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, NM, MT, UT, NV, WY)
 New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT) East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN) Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA) East North Central (IN, IL, MI, OH, WI) Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, NM, MT, UT, NV, WY) Middle Atlantic (NY, NJ, PA)
 New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT) East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN) Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA) East North Central (IN, IL, MI, OH, WI) Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, NM, MT, UT, NV, WY) Middle Atlantic (NY, NJ, PA) West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX)
 New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT) East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN) Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA) East North Central (IN, IL, MI, OH, WI) Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, NM, MT, UT, NV, WY) Middle Atlantic (NY, NJ, PA) West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX) South Atlantic (DE, DC, FL, GA, MD, NC, PR, SC, VA, WV)
 New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT) East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN) Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA) East North Central (IN, IL, MI, OH, WI) Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, NM, MT, UT, NV, WY) Middle Atlantic (NY, NJ, PA) West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX) South Atlantic (DE, DC, FL, GA, MD, NC, PR, SC, VA, WV) West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, ND, NE, SD)

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10/8/2020	Qualtrics Survey Software
O Less than 100	
O 100 to 500	
O Greater than 500	
Have your posticipated in amotional intelligen	anno training?
Have you participated in emotional intellige	nce training?
O Yes	
O No	
Have you participated in employee engage	ement training?
riave you participated in employee engage	ment danning:
O Yes	
O No	
Have you participated in stress manageme	ent training?
O Yes	
O No	
Work 8	& Well-being Survey (UWES)
The following 17 statements are about how you	feel at work. Please read each statement carefully and
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	you have never had this feeling, select "O" (zero) in the
	eeling, indicate how often you feel it select the number
(from 1 to 7) that best describes how frequently	
At my work, I feel bursting with energy	
I find the work that I do full of meaning and purp	inse •
Time flies when I'm working	•
At my job, I feel strong and vigorous	•
I am enthusiastic about my job	•
When I am working, I forget everything else aro	und me
My job inspires me	•
When I get up in the morning, I feel like going to	work

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10/8/2020	Qualtrics Survey Software	
I feel happy when I am working intensely		•
I am proud of the work that I do		~
I am immersed in my work		~
I can continue working for very long periods at a	time	~
To me, my job is challenging		~
I get carried away when I'm working		~
At my job, I am very resilient, mentally		~
It is difficult to detach myself from my job		~
At my work I always persevere, even when thing well	s do not go	•

The Schutte Self Report Emotional Intelligence Test (SSEIT)

Instructions: Indicate the extent to which each item applies to you using the provided scale.

I know when to speak about my personal problems to others	~
When I am faced with obstacles, I remember times I faced similar obstacles and overcame them	•
I expect that I will do well on most things I try	~
Other people find it easy to confide in me	•
I find it hard to understand the non-verbal messages of other people	•
Some of the major events in my life have led me to re-evaluate what is important and not important	•
When my mood changes, I see new possibilities	~
Emotions are one of the things that make my life worth living	•
I am aware of my emotions as I experience them	•
I expect good things to happen	•
I like to share my emotions with others	•
When I experience a positive emotion, I know how to make it last	•
I arrange events others enjoy	•
I seek out activities that make me happy	•
I am aware of the non-verbal messages I send to others	•
I present myself in a way that makes a good impression on others	•
When I am in a positive mood, solving problems is easy for me	•
By looking at facial expressions, I recognize the emotions people are experiencing	•
I know why my emotions change	•
When I am in a positive mood, I am able to come up with new ideas	•
I have control over my emotions	
District of the second of the	. 7

	•
I easily recognize my emotions as I experience them	~
I motivate myself by imagining a good outcome to tasks I take on	~
I compliment others when they have done something well	•
I am aware of non-verbal messages other people send	~
When another person tells me about an important event in his or her life, I almost feel as though I have experienced this event myself	•
When I feel a change in emotions, I tend to come up with new ideas	~
When I am faced with a challenge, I give up because I believe I will fail	•
I know what other people are feeling just by looking at them	•
I help other people feel better when they are down	•
I use good moods to help myself keep trying in the face of obstacles	~
I can tell how people are feeling by listening to the tone of their voice	•
It is difficult for me to understand why people feel the way they do	

Profession Quality of Life Scale (PROQOL)

COMPASSION SATISFACTION AND COMPASSION FATIGUE (PROQOL) Version 5 (2009) Stamm, B.

When you [help] people you have direct contact with their lives. As you may have found, your compassion for those you [help] can affect you in positive and negative ways. Below are some-questions about your experiences, both positive and negative, as a [helper]. Consider each of the following questions about you and your current work situation. Select the number that honestly reflects how frequently you experience these things in the last 30 days.

I am happy.	•
I am preoccupied with more than one person I [help].	•
I get satisfaction from being able to [help] others.	•
I feel connected to others.	~
I jump or am startled by unexpected sounds.	•
I feel invigorated after working with those I [help].	•
I find it difficult to separate my personal life from my life as a [helper].	•
I am not as productive at work because I am losing sleep over traumatic experiences of a person I [help].	•
I think that I might have been affected by the traumatic stress of those I [help].	~
I feel trapped by my job as a [helper].	~

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Appendix 4

