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PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING IN EDUCATORS TO ENHANCE STUDENT PERFORMANCE

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14th Annual Celebration of Student Scholarship and Creativity-2023

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How can educators be better prepared to identify and help students with poor mental health and low access to resources?

BACKGROUND

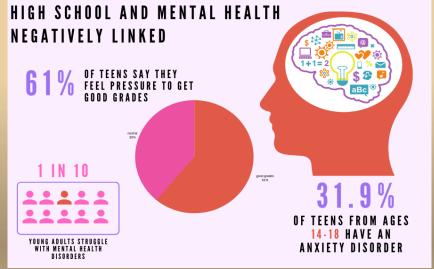
Mental health issues are on the rise in high school students post-pandemic. Student performance is negatively linked with mental health with 61% of teens stating they feel pressure to get good grades. These issues are especially prevalent among students that have a low socioeconomic status due to a lack of resources, lack of opportunity, and finances resulting in disproportionate amounts poor academic performance.

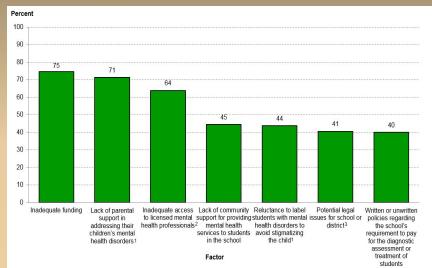
RATIONALE

It is crucial for educators to be knowledgeable about mental issues and how to mitigate the effect on students' performance

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This study was guided by psychological theories in which educators must be somewhat trained in mental health/psychology in order to best provide for and accommodate their students.





METHODOLOGY

I read and examined multiple articles on student mental health to determine effective practices for educators to be better prepared to identify student mental issues and support them in the classroom.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- Mental health training
- > Trauma informed teaching.
- > An open-minded attitude toward all students
- > Understanding of different socioeconomic status
- Connecting with students.

CONCLUSION

Mental health training in educators is crucial to enhance their knowledge and success of students, especially those with low socioeconomic status:

- > Mental health resources
- > Signs of poor mental health
- Using empathy to address issues
- Accommodating students with mental issues

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Whitney, D.G. & Peterson, M. (2019). US national and state-level prevalence of mental health disorders and disparities of mental health care use in children. JAMA Pediatrics, 173(4), 389-391. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2018.5399