

however trauma research has given little emphasis to protective factors against mental disorders and the more commonly reported cases of psychological development in the aftermath of trauma. It was only recently that positive psychological and personal transformation following trauma - better known as posttraumatic growth (PTG) - has received much attention. The current study reports on the development of Arabic versions of scales used to assess both Posttraumatic Stress and Posttraumatic Growth. The study contrasts case worker and refugee self-assessments of growth, trauma symptoms and case management needs. The study provides Australian validations of both the Posttraumatic Growth Inventory and the Arabic version of the K-10, and as far as we know the first Arabic version of the Impact of Events Scale-Revised for adults.

Individual Research Paper (Paper #71)

Thursday 10 October 2013 – 1:00pm (Hall D)

Community attitudes toward refugee: A Northern Australian case

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Despite there being a marked increase in the number of refugees settling in northern Australia, there is little research into the attitudes held by the community toward refugees. Past studies have suggested that prejudice reflects negative affect which is associated with out-groups. As individuals entering a different society, refugees are able to be conceptualised as an out-group, and so prejudicial attitudes towards them may be influenced by this status. Past research has also suggested that prejudice occurs both overtly and covertly. Overt or direct prejudice is known as classical prejudice, while covert or subtle prejudice is known as modern prejudice. While the two types of prejudice are highly correlated, they are distinguishable. Research has also consistently illustrated that symbolic and realistic threats can serve to predict prejudicial attitudes toward outgroups. By surveying the attitudes held by the communities in northern Australia, this paper investigates the relationship between symbolic and realistic threat and racial prejudice. A total of 200 participants took part in the survey which was comprised of the following scales: The 46-item questionnaire includes the following standardised scales: the Classical and Modern Racial Prejudice Scale, the Realistic and Symbolic Threat Scale and the Prejudicial Attitude Survey. Realistic and symbolic threats were highly correlated with each other and both were good predictors of general prejudicial attitudes. The perceptions of both realistic and symbolic threats predict prejudicial attitudes within the sample. Realistic threat, compared to symbolic threat, is a stronger predictor.

Professional Practice Forum (Paper #244)

Wednesday 9 October 2013 – 3:15pm (Plenary Hall A and B)

Ethical decision making: A framework to manage ethical dilemmas

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There will be many situations throughout psychologists' professional lives that will require them to manage the uncertainty of not knowing what course of action to take while they think through the circumstances they are experiencing and plan for the most appropriate course of action. Some of these situations will involve ethical dilemmas. To assist APS members to navigate this difficult terrain by providing a tool that guides members' thinking, reflection, and consultation before decisions are made and implemented, the APS Ethics Committee has developed an Ethical Decision Making model which involves five key steps, each with several sub-criteria. Through using common practice dilemmas this presentation will illustrate how to identify when there is an ethical issue or dilemma present, and will explore how the model works in order to