**Colleague Alexis post to week 4 discussion 1**

**Define the Problem**

            At the current moment I am a counseling psychologist in a state prison. So far I have worked with many individuals during my time working as a psychologist in a state prison. In recent events I began working with a new inmate, this inmate decided to confide in me and express information about another inmate that is considering suicide. Unfortunately no other information has been given about the inmate that is contemplating suicide.

**Explore the Alternatives**

            Some things that may have interfered with the individual to give me more information would be their personality type. In other word’s they might have the personality type that cannot really tolerate, in other words they might be type B personality as were type A has no issue with this (Heydari, H., Et Al, 2011). In Layman terms, if I can understand this individual better than I can get to figuring out who the individual is faster. Some other alternatives to figuring this out can be restricting reading material, or some other privilege. Or I can come to an understanding and agreement with the inmate in order to figure out who is feeling suicidal.

**Consider the Consequences**

            Some of the possible consequences that may arise from dealing with this inmate can vary. They can have negative responses towards him where he would be considered to be a snitch. Other issues may be that the inmate informs other prisoners, then the other inmates may possibly fabricate stories in order to have something be in their favor.

**Identify Ethical Considerations**

In a study by Oliveira, A., 2007, the following was affirmed: “He affirmed that “culture is man-made, confirmed by others, conventionalized, and passed on for younger people or newcomers to learn. Culture provides people with a meaningful context in which to meet, to think about themselves, and to face the outer world” (Oliveira, A., 2007, P. 14). Prison itself has a different culture that establishes rules for inmates that they follow on a regular, these rules are different from those that are already in place by the guards. Being able to identify and manipulate the culture within the prison that this person adheres to would also give me an advantage in trying to learn who the individual that is considering suicide is.

**Reduce Bias**

            Ethical dilemmas tend to contain the following: (a) it is difficult to specify, (b) it has a particular context, (c) it may not be evident, (d) it involves several stakeholders, and (e) it combines people’s lack of knowledge with their inability to make the right decision (Oliveira, A., 2007). In order for me not to create a bias opinion I believe that I have to acknowledge these steps and considerations and have an answer for each of them most importantly E. Having the ability to get the inmate to understand the dilemma and negative outcome could be the answer.

**Decision**

            My decision to try and establish an agreement or some sort of trade with the inmate for this information could potentially be a risky decision. Prison culture is a complex culture to try and understand. Developing these arrangements can be beneficial as well though. Overall my decision is one that has culture at its base, and I would try to utilize this to get more information.

**References**

Heydari, H., Bagherian, F., Abadi, J. F., Shahyad, S., Asadi, M., Miri, M., &Derekhshanpur, A. (2011). [The effect of the environment (real and virtual) and the personality on the speed of decision making (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.)](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1877042811006641). Procedia: Social and Behavioral Sciences, 15, 2411-2414. doi:10.1016/j.sbspro.2011.04.118

Oliveira, A. (2007). [Decision-Making theories and models: A discussion of rational and psychological decision-making theories and models: The search for a cultural-ethical decision-making model (Links to an external site.) (Links to an external site.)](http://ejbo.jyu.fi/pdf/ejbo_vol12_no2_pages_12-17.pdf). Electronic Journal of Business Ethics and Organization Studies, 12(2). Retrieved from http://ejbo.jyu.fi/