#### Part 2

**Respond** to at least **two** of your colleagues' postings in one or more of the following ways:

* Ask a probing question.
* Share an insight from having read your colleagues' postings.
* Offer and support an opinion.
* Validate an idea with your own experience.
* Make a suggestion.
* Expand on your colleagues' postings.

**Return** to this Discussion in a few days to read the responses to your initial posting. Note what you learned and/or any insights you gained as a result of your colleagues' comments.

**Discussion 1**

**Research Problem and Purpose**:

Sexual trauma is a widespread *problem* (Hatala, 2011) with lingering effects of sexual abuse either during childhood or later on through the course of life (Draucker et al., 2009) that result in victims’ experiences of a myriad of acute and chronic sequelae psychological symptoms and distresses (Ulloa, Guzman, Salazar & Cala, 2016) with relationships, poor coping mechanisms, avoidance behaviors, self-blame, depressive symptoms, chronic post-traumatic stress disorder, personality changes, acute stress reactions, emotional detachment, revictimization, substance abuse, and or health risk behaviors (Draucker et al., 2009; Bogar & Hulse-Killacky, 2006; Madsen & Abell, 2010). These psychological effects vary in intensity (Bogar & Hulse-Killacky, 2006) and problems affecting the victims’ quality of life. Therefore, I am interested in studying the phenomena of resiliency skills, especially, exploring the process and timing of healing in sexual assault survivors of rape. Are there any underlying processes towards the development of resiliency? What factors constitute the process of change in survivors of various types of sexual trauma? I am interested in, the particular phenomena of resiliency because I experienced and survived rape as a teenager by a serial rapist (unknown stranger) and observed firsthand the differences within resiliency with the other victims that were struggling with resiliency skills after 10 years of being subpoenaed to court for trial against the perpetrator. The *purpose* of this quantitative study is to explore resiliency skills especially, with the process and timing of healing from the experiences of survivors of sexual trauma (rape or molestation) in clinical settings.

**Explain which survey research design is most appropriate for addressing your problem and research question(s).**

Surveys are some of the most reputable used methods in the social sciences research that provide a lens into understanding the way societies work and to test theories of behavior (Groves, Fowler, Couper, Lepkowski, Singer & Tourangeau, 2009). Therefore, a cross-sectional survey design would explore the intent of the study of victims’ resiliency skills especially, their process and timing of healing of sexual trauma because this design focuses on the measurement and collection of data on the prevalence of attitudes, behaviors, intentions, knowledge, opinions and or respondents’ practices (Connelly, 2016). The victims’ perspectives are vital and important and therefore, the mode of utilization through self-administered surveys using open-ended questions can be provided based on the nature of the topic which is sensitive and

**Justify your choice of design by explaining why it is most appropriate compared to other designs.**

Cross-sectional surveys have several advantages. It can be used via multiple modes of data collection, mixing modes can reduce costs, and can maximize the response rates (Fowler, 2013). Based on its flexibility surveys can cover many different areas of human behavior and conditions, and can be used with many populations (Connelly, 2016). A mixed-methods can be beneficial in applying the cross-sectional surveys via email, mail, and or via interview surveys; (one-on-one interviewing surveys, and or via focus group interviews)  recording their responses and via observational methods (Conelly, 2016 & Fowler, 2013) to provide the victims’ with confidentiality and trust to disclose their most personal and intimate experiences.

Discussion 2

**Problem Statement and Purpose of My Research**

The problem that exists in my community is that there has been an increase in elder abuse cases since the COID-19 pandemic, and ageism as well as social distancing protocols may be a contributing factor to the increase in elder abuse cases (Birnstengel, 2020, para. 11; Burhanullah, 2020, para. 1-4). The purpose of the survey research to collect the opinions and views of 100 older adults who are 60 years of age and older and live in Columbus, Ohio to determine if there is a significant relationship between ageism and social distance protocols regarding the increase of elder abuse cases within my community during the COVD-19 pandemic.

**Survey Research Designs**

Survey research designs are the most valuable tools that a researcher can utilize to collect data to  assess a target population’s opinions and beliefs about a particular phenomenon (Shuttleworth, n.d., para. 4). Therefore, it is very important that a researcher utilize the most accurate and meaningful survey design for their research project (Shuttleworth, n.d., para. 1). According to Tanny (2018), survey research designs are procedures in quantitative research in which researchers will utilize questionnaires, interviews, etc. to statistically analyze and collect numerical data to find answers to research questions and hypotheses (para. 1).  In most cases, researchers choose the type of survey research design based on the type of theorical framework they have chosen for their research (Allen, 2017, para. 1).

There are various types of survey research designs that researchers can utilize, and they consist of cross-sectional or longitudinal survey research designs. Based on the type of research that I am conducting, a cross-sectional survey research design would be more appropriate. According to Thomas (2020), cross-sectional survey research designs are commonly utilized in the medical, psychology, and other professions pertaining to the social sciences. A researcher will utilize this type of survey when they want to analyze the data from variables that were collect by a sample population within a given point of time (Allen, 2017, para. 1; Question, 2021, para.; Thomas, 2020, para. 1). The cross-sectional surveys may be descriptive in that they assess the severity or frequency of a variable in a given point of time; or they may be analytical in which data is collected to assess the relationship between two related or unrelated variable; or correlational when two or more variables are studied without being manipulated or controlled (Jaikumar, 2018, p. 19; Question, 2021, para. 12).  Therefore, the cross-sectional survey design would be more appropriate because the two independent variables that I will be utilizing are ageism and social distance protocols which are considered to be independent variables. I will be analyzing these variables to help determine if a relationship exist between the increase in elder abuse cases which is consider to be the dependent variable. The independent variables in my research will not be manipulated and will be studied over a given point of time such as what is occurring at this moment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On the other hand, longitudinal surveys will not be appropriate for my survey because they are utilized when a researcher is trying to collect data over a period of time. For instance, a researcher may be conducting a trends research in which the researcher is trying to study the changes in behaviors, opinions over a period of time; or a panel research in which the researcher is trying to study a characteristic of a same sample group of people over a period of time (Tanny, 2018, para. 7-9).