Abstract of the thesis

Introduction: The topic of those who have been victims of human trafficking and who are also addicted to drugs is something not yet deeply investigated. The prevention, intervention and social services for those who are both drug addicts and victims of human trafficking should be based on good knowledge of the situation each of their particular needs. Helping organizations for this population of people report that from their experiences, this is a situation that continues to become more problematic. It is important to be aware of these situations in order to improve them. Victims of human trafficking who also struggle with drug addiction is a situation that deals with many types of needs. It is important to understand each of those comprehensively to fully help the people to return to a social life.

Claim: The aim of this work is to describe the various barriers that people face when looking to access addiction rehabilitation centers. This work is from the point-of-view of the victims of human trafficking as well as from the professionals who work with those victims. The aim of the work is to examine how both the professional and victim look at all parts of the issues of barriers.

Methods: Quality research was conducted using semi-structured interviews with human trafficking victims and with the professionals who work in addiction rehabilitation centers. Data was also collected from focus groups of professionals who work with human trafficking victims. Information from literature was also used for the analysis of the collected data.

Results: Research showed that many barriers exist for victims of human trafficking that are seeking help at an addiction rehabilitation center. The results also show that it is personal barriers which both the victims and professionals struggle with the most. It was reported that structural barriers are found with issues in the rules and conditions of entry to an addiction rehabilitation center. Results of the research also show system barriers which cause difficulty for victims seeking help at the centers. Both the professionals and victims reported the same opinion on system barriers.

Conclusion: The thesis of this research does not just map the barriers of human trafficking victims who are addicted to drugs, but instead includes all points-of-view for the situation. The research brought forth interesting data that can be directed towards bringing a better awareness for people trying to understand and improve the situation. Personal reports from victims and professionals working with those victims is included in the thesis research.

Keywords: Human trafficking, addiction, addiction rehabilitation center, barriers