UC Merced

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society

Title

Relationship between Social Support and Posttraumatic Growth for KoreanFirefighters

Permalink

https://escholarship.org/uc/item/3165k1rg

Journal

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 42(0)

Authors

Kim, Hyejin

Shin, Jasmin Jeeyeh

Ryu, Jeong

Publication Date

2020

Peer reviewed

Relationship between Social Support and Posttraumatic Growth for Korean Firefighters

Hyejin Kim

Gachon University, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do, Korea, Republic of

Jasmin Jeeyeh Shin

Gachon University, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do, Korea, Republic of

Jeong Ryu

Seokyeong University, Seoul, Korea, Republic of

Abstract

Firefighters are exposed to elevated levels of potentially traumatizing events through the course of their work. Such exposure can have lasting negative consequences (e.g., posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)) and/or positive outcomes (e.g., posttraumatic growth (PTG)). Research had implicated trauma, occupational and personal variables that account for variance in posttrauma outcomes yet at this stage no research has investigated these factors and their relative influence on both PTSD and PTG in a single study. Based in Calhoun and Tedeschi's model of PTG and previous research, in this study regression models of PTG and PTSD symptoms among 610 firefighters were tested. Results indicated organisational factors predicted symptoms of PTSD, while there was partial support for the hypothesis that coping and social support would be predictors of PTG. Increases in PTG were predicted by experiencing trauma from multiple sources and the use of selfcare coping.