Abstract

Aging out of the foster care system is a sad reality for nearly 20,000 young adults annually. This number of young adults being thrown into the world with little to no resources leaves these young adults down a path of homelessness, unemployment, and even abusive relationships. Having the research to confirm that this is an ongoing issue could lead to reformation of assistance that exists for these young adults, as well as possible change in the actual foster care system. Studies such as this can educate people on the shortcomings that exist for these young adults in the foster care system, and expand the knowledge and resources needed in order to make opportunities available to this demographic.

Discussion

Aging out of the foster care system is a sad reality for nearly 20,000 young adults annually. This number of young adults being thrown into the world with little to no resources leads these young adults down a path of homelessness, unemployment, and even abusive relationships. Having the research to confirm that this is an ongoing issue could lead to reformation of assistance that exists for these young adults, as well as possible change in the actual foster care system. Studies such as this can educate people on the shortcomings that exist for these young adults in the foster care system, and expand the knowledge and resources needed in order to make opportunities available to this demographic.

References

Predicted Results

The proposed research study will use a chi-square to test the hypothesis that those who aged out of foster care experience homelessness at higher rates than those who were not in foster care. This analysis would determine the significance in the difference of responses given between the two groups of the sample being studied. Using the Likert scales allows for the data to be measured and a score given that can be averaged between groups. The scores would then be compared on the chi-square test to determine expected versus observed results. The expected results of the study would show that those who aged out of the foster care system were more likely to report experience homelessness than those who were not a part of the foster care system. However, homelessness rates could be seen in the group who was not a part of the foster care system more frequently than expected. This could lead to the study failing to reject the null hypothesis.