The 2nd Bullying, Incivility, and Violence in Adult, Higher, Continuing, and Professional Education Pre-Conference

in Conjunction with
2017 Adult Education Research Conference (AERC)
Norman, OK, June 8, 2017

Justice for All: Practicing Anti-Bullying and Anti-Violence Education to Create Civil Environments for Adult Learners

Call for Proposals
Extended Submission Deadline: April 25, 2017

Overview and Purpose

Violent incidents seem to appear daily in news in contemporary society. In recent years, media increasingly reported national and international violent incidents. Scholars who study bullying, violence, and incivility reported that every day there are violent incidents that are reported in media (Caponecchia & Wyatt, 2011; Hinduja & Patchin, 2009; Rayner, Hoel, & Cooper, 2002; Twale & De Luca, 2008). According to the latest report from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, there were about 1.2 million violent crimes committed in the United States in 2015 (www.fbi.gov). Media have extensively reported those incidents across the United States and the world. In the past year, there were several national, critical violent incidents revolving around sociocultural identities such as the Black Lives Matter movement, the Orlando Massacre, and the Chicago Riots in the United States. Those violent sociocultural incidents negatively affected the lives of not only those people who belong to racial, sexual, and other identity-based groups who were affected but also to people who witnessed such incidents (Misawa, 2016). Those incidents are often referred to as hate crimes. According to the Pew Research Center, although crimes are usually reported to police, often times crimes are not reported to police, especially those incidents involved with sociocultural identity groups (www.pewresearch.org).

Scholars in postsecondary education often refer to higher education as a microcosm of society because there are diverse populations coming together and spending time with each other there just like in contemporary society. Like a smaller version of actual society, violent incidents have also been reported there. According to the U.S. Department of Education (2016), based on 6,701 institutions with 11,286 campuses, the number of reported criminal offenses was 36,238, the number of reported hate crimes was 1,028, and the number of reported incidents involving the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) was 14,721. Those incidents were formally reported, and there may be more unreported malicious incidents like bullying and incivility in addition to those numbers (Twale & De Luca, 2008).

In order for postsecondary education to be a place where democratic and inclusive learning occur, adult educators and practitioners in adult, higher, continuing, and professional education need to be aware of and understand what bullying, incivility and violent incidents are so that they can combat those malicious incidents. To become aware of and have a good understanding of those incidents, adult educators and practitioners need to have critical dialogues about those incidents. In the preconference last year, there were some great conversations and sharing of stories about bullying, incivility, and violence in adult, higher, continuing, and professional education. This year’s preconference will also include critical dialogues about bullying, incivility, and violence in adult, higher, continuing, and professional education. Therefore, the purpose of this preconference is to provide an opportunity for educators, practitioners, and researchers to have continued critical dialogues about empirical, theoretical, and
practical issues of bullying, incivility, and violence in adult, higher, continuing, and professional education. This preconference will focus on the following theme: Justice for All: Practicing Anti-Bullying and Anti-Violence Education to Create Civil Environments for Adult Learners.

Types of Proposals

Proposals are encouraged for presentations dealing with empirical research, research methodology, theory development, and/or practical applications with regard to bullying, incivility, and violence in adult, higher, continuing, and professional education. Graduate students and early-career educators and practitioners who are interested in the topical areas and are conducting research or are practicing in the topical areas of bullying, incivility, and violence are also encouraged to submit their proposals in addition to seasoned researchers and practitioners. Again, the types of presentations we are looking for are:

- Empirical Research
- Theory/Model Development
- Theorizing from the Literature
- Research Methodology
- Practical Applications

Instructions for Proposal Submission

Submit your proposal before or on April 25, 2017 via email to the pre-conference organizer:

Dr. Mitsunori Misawa
Adult Learning (PhD) and Adult Education (MS)
Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Email: mmisawa@utk.edu

Your proposal should be two pages long:
1) First Page: One typed cover sheet that includes the title, your name, address, phone and fax numbers, email address, and a signed warrant statement that states:

I warrant that if my proposal is accepted, I will submit electronically a five to eight page (single spaced, typed) summary for inclusion in the Pre-Conference Proceedings to mmisawa@utk.edu. I understand that if this summary is not submitted by May 28, 2017, my summary will not be included as part of the second Bullying, Incivility, and Violence in Adult, Higher, Continuing, and Professional Education Pre-Conference proceedings and, instead, only my abstract will be included.

2) Second Page: One typed, single spaced, one-page abstract, not to exceed 600 words. The abstract must include the following information: Proposal title and abstract (250-600 words) including 3-5 keywords, the purpose of the study or the purpose of the presentation (based on theories, concepts, or applications), research questions or positions supported by the literature, methodology, findings (if available), and discussion/conclusion/implications.

Please note that all of the received proposals for the pre-conference will be submitted to a blind review process. So, it is important for you to follow the instructions above. The submission deadline will now be April 25, 2017. Notification of our decision regarding your proposal will be sent on or before April 30, 2017. Accepted proposal author(s) will be provided information and instructions for full text paper submissions.