

Health Care Management, Mortuary Science, and Millennials

Health Care Management and the field of Mortuary Science have common concerns for support for dying persons and their families, within the hospice model of care (Ragow-O'Brien, Hayslip & Guarnaccia, 2000). The traditional funeral and process of interacting with families has continued to evolve over time, and issues regarding business related motives and consumer related motivations are part of the change process (Beard, & Burger, 2017).

The status of the diagnosis of the maladaptive DSM-5 diagnosis category or “persistent complex bereavement-related disorder” is an issue that is of concern for all stakeholders within this area of ASA (Stroebe, Schut, & Boerner, 2017). The affects of DSM-5 is associated with many factors, but centers on better understanding of the sensitivity and differences in death attitudes (Bassett, 2017). A question of alignment regarding changing traditions and differences in death attitudes includes the awareness and future practices of the next generation of consumers of hospice and funeral services, the “Millennials” (Harvell, 2017).

This research proposal focuses on conducting survey research, to gather current information from representatives of hospice, mortuary science/funeral homes, and millennials, to determine current questions of alignment regarding changing traditions and differences in death attitudes.

References:

- Bassett, F., J. (2017). Disgust sensitivity accounts for some but not all gender differences in death attitudes. *OMEGA: Journal of Death and Dying*, 75(1) 26-46.
- Beard, V., R., & Burger, W., C. (2017). Change and innovation in the funeral industry: A typology of motivations *Omega: Journal of Death & Dying*, 75(1), 47-68
- Harvell, S. R. (2017). The Millennial Consumer of Funeral Services. *Funeral Home & Cemetery News*, A14.
- Ragow-O'Brien, D., Hayslip B, J., & Guarnaccia, C. (2000). The impact of hospice on attitudes toward funerals and subsequent bereavement adjustment. *Omega: Journal of Death & Dying*, 41(4), 291-305.
- Stroebe, M., Schut, H., & Boerner, K. (2017). Cautioning health-care professionals: Bereaved persons are misguided through the stages of grief. *Omega*, 74(4), 455–473.
<http://doi.org/10.1177/0030222817691870>