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COUNSELOR EDUCATION AND SUPERVISION

A NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF GAY MALES’ EXPERIENCE WITH CHRISTIANITY: IDENTITY, INTERSECTION, AND COUNSELING CONSIDERATIONS (270 pp.)

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The purpose of this qualitative dissertation was to understand the narratives of gay male individuals who identify as Christian. Although some researchers have focused on conducting studies on religious topics and others on various aspects of the LGBTQ community, there remains a paucity of research that has examined the intersection of these elements for the field of counseling and their implications. Of the limited studies conducted in this combined area, most studies are conceptual in nature or based in quantitative research approaches. The rationale for this study was to capture the narratives of gay males who are Christian and discover themes through the analysis of semi-structured interviews. Therefore, the researcher sought to answer, “What are the narratives of gay males who have a Christian religious identity?”

The participants were eight adult males who self-identified as gay, male, and Christian. A narrative analysis was conducted in order to gain, understand, and analyze salient narratives from participants. From this understanding gained through the participants’ narratives, better programming, support, and educational opportunities all related to the professional field of counseling can be generated for gay Christian males.