

Summarizing a Research Article

In regard to social class and stratification, food insecurity is a major social problem for many Americans. The article, *Senior Hunger: The Importance of Quality Assessment Tools in Determining Need* (Gualtieri and Donley 2016), focuses on this issue as it relates to seniors. This research article is an excellent example of applied sociology. It also illustrates that when doing qualitative research, in this case face to face interviews, you are guided by the data into new discoveries. Gualtieri and Donley were able to improve services at an agency providing food to seniors by improving the way the agency collects information on senior food needs and practices. As they state agencies providing services to seniors “**must address barriers to food security that do not relate to income**” (Gualtieri and Donley 2016:17).

Instructions: You are to write a 2 page summary of the article, *Senior Hunger: The Importance of Quality Assessment Tools in Determining Need* (Gualtieri and Donley 2016). In your summary you will cover the abstract, introduction/literature review, method, results/findings, and discussion. Refer to comments below to help you in writing your summary. I suggest you label each section of your summary. This is a good practice to keep you on task

Conclude your summary with a follow up thought on how you would use this research to aid a population of seniors in the Las Vegas area. Your well written summary should be typed, double-spaced, 12ptfont, with 1-inch margins. Include a heading with name, date, course number/section, and title of assignment. I have set this assignment as a file upload; please use word format.

General Comments on Reading a Research Article: Most empirical articles begin with an abstract. An abstract is a brief

(usually 120 words or less), comprehensive summary of the study. The next section of the article is the introduction. The introduction offers a review of the current study's background, introduces the study question (Why is this question important? How does it relate to previous findings?), and states the current study's purpose and rationale. The introduction is usually followed by the methods section.

The methods section describes how the study was conducted, and is often divided into subsections of (1) Participants (2) Measures; and (3) Procedure. Next is the results section.

The results/findings section discusses statistical procedures, summarizes collected data, and often includes tables, charts and figures.

Last is the discussion/conclusion section. This section evaluates and interprets implications of the results, discusses the importance of the findings, discloses any limitations of the study, and lays out directions for future research in the area.

Criteria for assignment- Please make sure you include

- 1. Abstract summary**
- 2. Literature Review**
- 3. Method Summary**
- 4. Results**
- 5. Conclusion**
- 6. Personal Application**