Specific Learning Disorders in Adulthood and Advanced Training Courses

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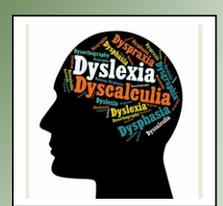
Introduction

Specific Learning Disorders (LSD) are a study that is originated around the first decades of the XX century (Cornoldi, 2015).
In the last 10 years researchers focused their studies on the phenomenon of adult dyslexics who, despite the obstacles connected with their difficulties, they were able to overcome the barriers and successful build their futures (Goodwin V., Thomson B., 2011).
The state of art highlights the skills and abilities of adults with Specific Learning Disorders (SLD) who face a training and work path in a specific work context (social cooperatives) as educators in childcare services in Italy and Spain.
At the same time the literature underlines the few studies that have emerged in the educational path of adults with learning disabilities, the abilities that some of these adults have and the formation of the adults' identity and character.

Aims

The aims that this research would make are going to be:

- Increase the working condition with the realization of informative meetings for SLD's colleagues.
- Increase the relationship between SLD and their colleagues



Method

Mixed methods

Partecipants:

A sample of 80 educators with Specific Learning Disorders and 40 Coordinators of cooperative where these people works.

50 educators and 30 Coordinators from Italy
30 educators and 10 Coordinators from Spain

Tools uses:

Questionnaires and interviews to analyze the experiences from different perspectives.

Procedure

Audio-recording, transcription and analysis of semi-structured interviews and analysis of the questionnaires aimed at to groups to detect the experiences of formal and informal prospective of the Learning Disabilities.

The questionnaires will be administering to the educators with DSA and the Semi-structured Interview will be reserve to the coordinators.

Expected Results:

Since the Specific Learning Disorders are a recent study, the research will use the testimonies of a sample of young adult, realized through interviews and questionnaires qualitative, create a line guide that could help the next LSD working generation in educational sector.

Demonstrate that, despite excellent educational qualities, skills and strengths and some weaknesses, educators with Specific Learning Disorders are excellent resources for the preschool educational setting

Limits and Discussions

The limits encountered during the research activity are due to:

- The difficulty in collecting the material due to the restrictions due to Covid-19
- The unwillingness from the cooperatives and educators contacted to participate in the survey

Discussions: The limited Italian and Spain educator sample could not give a real idea of the situation of SLD educators into the two countries. Furthermore, the research focuses only on some aspects, leaving out others that could be considered in other researches.

References

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