

Week 5 Assignment 2: Police Training on Developmental and Cognitive Disorders

“Police Training on Developmental and Cognitive Disorders” is worth a total of 75 points, and it is due on Saturday night.

Purpose:

This week's reading, Chapter 5, addresses the important topic of **law enforcement interactions with people who have mental disorders**. Though that group includes, for example, people who are experiencing temporary mental health crises, the population requiring skilled law enforcement response is much broader.

People who have **intellectual developmental disorder**, other **neurodevelopmental disorders** (for example, autism) and **neurocognitive disorders** (for example, traumatic brain injury) face a particular set of risks when dealing with law enforcement. [See Chapter 2.7 Mental Disorders Identified in Childhood](#) and [Chapter 2.8 Neurocognitive Disorders](#) to review summaries of these disorders. A person with one of these disorders may have impaired communication or atypical behaviors that are easily misconstrued. A person with one of these disorders is also statistically far more likely than a non-disabled person to be **victimized**. It is critical that this group is able to safely engage with police.

For this assignment, I want you to consider **how law enforcement officers may interact with people who have developmental or cognitive disorders**, and **what they should know** in order to do so effectively.

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Tasks:

1. **Watch** the police training video linked in the content, and again [here \[Streaming Video\]](#).
2. **Write** a short commentary (**about 400 words**) discussing the video:
 - If we were to create an updated video with local advocates and the Portland Police, what idea(s) would you have for making it more effective and informative, and more respectful to and inclusive of the population we are seeking to support?
 - The video shows multiple scenarios. Pull out **at least three specifics from the scenarios to comment** on -- perhaps, something you **really liked**, something that was **really bad**, and something you would have done **differently**. *Don't let that limit you -- just comment on three things!*
 - Should training of this sort be **required** for law enforcement? How do you see it being different from (or the same as) "mental health" training?
3. **Upload your document** to D2L in the assignment folder. Use whatever format you prefer - numbered paragraphs or more of an essay style. Just make sure you answer all my questions!

Criteria for Success:

Your short paper is worth **75 points**, so make sure it is worthy of full credit. I will grade you on the **substance** of your answers, as well as readability and timeliness. Use sentences, check your spelling and grammar, and make sure you ****reference specifics**** from the video. I'm looking for at least a full **page of writing, about 400 words**. And be sure and check out my grading rubric linked to this assignment!

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