

Does Living Together In The Community Affect Rev Sisters To Disaffiliate Or Leave Their Order?

MARIA UGOCHINYERE NWACHUKWU

Psychology, Middlesex University, London, UK

Research found that out of the 15 candidates that were admitted into the Catholic Convent, four were able to make their first profession whilst only one succeeded in making her final vow. In other words, only 7% (one in 15) was successful. Decision-making is paramount in this process for Sisters to choose either to remain or to leave.

A few literatures on the topic exist but the work is novel being a new dimension. Available literature focused on disaffiliation, apostasy and identity construction. None had focused on Sisters defection using quantitative methodology to validate the findings. The present study examines the predictor that could lead to Sisters leaving the Order

This research used Logistic regression Analysis and a T-test for analysis. The number of respondent was 259 who reside in UK. The sample consisted of The Sisters who were still with the Order and the Ex- Sisters. The validate and self-developed questionnaire asked how likely they would defect the Order on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 meaning those who have left the Order.

The results show that Authoritative Influence, Neglect, General Anxiety Disorder (GAD), and Quality of life are likely to trigger Sisters disaffiliation; whilst Negative Affectivity (AffN) encourages Sisters to remain in the Order. Also, the T-test shows that Sisters who remained with the Order related better with their leaders, peers whilst those who have defected were likely to have difficult relating with other members of the Order.

Mixed Method is recommended for the future research to validate these findings.

Keywords: rev sisters, negative affectivity