

Psychology
Higher level
Paper 3

Friday 6 November 2015 (morning)

1 hour

Instructions to candidates

- Do not turn over this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Read the passage carefully and then answer all the questions.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[30 marks]**.

The stimulus material below is based on a research article investigating immigration experiences of teenage female Afghan refugees.

The aim of this case study was to investigate the challenges faced by teenage females from Afghanistan moving to the West. The lead researcher of the study was an Afghan refugee herself. She had a similar experience in her late teenage years and is now a community support worker.

- 5 A purposive sample of fourteen teenage Afghan females who had left Afghanistan within the last five years was collected from the researcher’s personal contacts. The lead researcher visited the participants one week before the interviews and informed participants of the questions. This was so that they could provide feedback about the questions they felt comfortable to answer. She also had informal discussions with them in the Afghan language in order to build rapport.
- 10 The participants gave their informed consent to participating in the study before the study began.

15 Semi-structured interviews were conducted. These were followed by a focus group interview a week later. All communication was conducted in Afghan. The interviews were audio recorded and transcribed into English by the researcher. The transcripts were analysed using inductive content analysis (thematic analysis).

20 The results showed that participants had experienced several educational and social problems, such as problems caused by lack of English language skills and being bullied in school. On the other hand, they all valued education and wanted to continue school. The participants also expressed concerns that they had to play sport and receive sex education with male peers; both these things are considered taboo in Afghanistan. The girls had hopes for further education but some of them were afraid that they would not be allowed to continue going to school. Many parents wanted their daughter to marry at a young age. The experience of being caught between two cultures and disagreements with parents created a feeling that they did not completely belong to either community.

25 According to the researcher, there is limited research exploring the health and social issues of teenage female Afghan refugees. Local educators and social health workers have limited knowledge about the unique experiences of this group, which makes it difficult to respond to their needs appropriately. The researcher hoped that recommendations from the study could contribute to a better understanding of how to help young female refugees adapt to a new
30 country.

[Source: Nida Iqbal, Andrew Joyce, Alana Russo, and Jaya Earnest, “Resettlement Experiences of Afghan Hazara Female Adolescents: A Case Study from Melbourne, Australia,” *International Journal of Population Research*, vol. **2012**, Article ID 868230, 9 pages, 2012. doi:10.1155/2012/868230]

Answer **all** of the following three questions, referring to the stimulus material in your answers. Marks will be awarded for demonstration of knowledge and understanding of **qualitative** research methodology.

- 1. Explain the use of semi-structured interviews and a focus group interview in this case study. [10]
- 2. Discuss **one or more** ethical considerations relevant to this case study. [10]
- 3. Explain the use of reflexivity in this case study. [10]