A Comprehensive Plan for Providing Chaplaincy Support to Wounded Female Soldiers: A Delphi Study

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Committee

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Sources of Inspiration

- My Army job: chaplain assistant
- An underserved population: Women soldiers
- Stories I heard: rape, trauma
- Bad experiences with male chaplains
Problem Statement

General Problem: Women are underrepresented in the chaplaincy

Assumption: Female soldiers prefer to receive support from female chaplains

Specific problem: The chaplaincy has no gender-specific support model
Purpose

Develop a comprehensive plan and model for providing emotional and spiritual support to wounded female soldiers.
Research Method & Design

- Qualitative Delphi Technique
  - Solution oriented
  - Utilizes expertise
  - Provides rich, descriptive data
Study Population

- Expert group 1: Wounded female soldiers
- Expert group 2: Female chaplains
Data Collection

- Data was collected through semi-structured interviews that took approximately 45 minutes.
- Interviews were emotional events for the female soldiers.
- Female chaplains responded to the list of needs generated from female soldier interviews.
The Comprehensive Female Soldiers Support (CFS²) Model

**Chaplaincy Institution Responsibilities**

- Female chaplain recruiting
- Female chaplain assignments
- Improved chaplain screening
- Gender issue discussions
- Comprehensive chaplain directory
- Training
- Chaplain conferences

**Female Soldier Support**

- Attend training
- Participate in conferences
- Engage in gender issue discussions
- Refer to female chaplains
- Take responsibility

**Male Chaplain Responsibilities**

- Female chaplain recruiting
- Female chaplain assignments
- Improved chaplain screening
- Gender issue discussions
- Comprehensive chaplain directory
- Training
- Chaplain conferences
Gender Factor Assumptions

1. Female soldiers will prefer to receive support from women chaplains.

2. Female chaplains will not be accepted in male-dominated units, such as the infantry.
Gender Factor Assumptions

1. Female soldiers will prefer to receive support from women chaplains.  
   **FALSE**

2. Female chaplains will not be accepted in male-dominated units, such as the infantry.  
   **FALSE**
Follow-on research project: Dr. Roberts & Dr. Kovacich
“How Male Military Chaplains of Different Religions Provide Emotional and Spiritual Support to Women Service Members: A Case Study”
RECEIVED AN UOPX OSS GENERAL GRANT FOR THIS STUDY
References


References

