Students Who Serve: A Study of Undergraduate Students' Experiences in Community Services

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Exploratory Questions

1) What meaning do college students ascribe to their service experiences?
2) What are college students’ experiences and goals as they engage in sustained community involvement?
3) What are students’ perceptions of leadership as they engage in service?

Methods

- Qualitative research study
- Interviewers: Ph.D. in Educational Leadership students
- Informants: 14 University of Dayton undergraduate students
- 30 to 45 minute open ended interviews
- Structured coding to determine themes

Student Voices

- "If you have a social justice... mindset, that’s where I start because you can’t make any structural change if you come in with the idea that you’re passing on something you’ve received from someone else... Community does extend beyond the borders of campus..."
- "Community does extend beyond the borders of campus..."
- "Busting ‘UD Bubble’ with a service experience is an idea..."
- "In high school I did service learning class, it was a religion class..."
- "Overall, the experience is one that I’ll remember for a long time..."
- "Service has helped connect me to the City of Dayton in ways I never would have thought were possible..."
- "Students that Serve: Research Study—"Service connected me to the City of Dayton in ways I never would have thought were possible..."
- "My high school did service learning class, it was a confirmation..."
- "As for high school I did service learning class, it was a confirmation..."