

# Review of: "Search for Meaning in the Professional Projects of Seniors at the End of Their Careers: an Interpretative Phenomenological Study"

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The introduction requires a better contextualization of the problem - the authors state that there is a growing concern with the meaning of life and work, but do not show these trends in the literatura (citations are needed). Also, why older workers? What make them an important to study? References to the aging population and workforce would be important.

The literature review requires further invesment, mainly by presenting a strong theory that helps to define the specific goals and to discuss the results. I would suggest Socioemotional Selectivity Theory, which proposes that as people get older and their time starts to be perceived as limited, their motivational orientation begins to change. It is aligned with several arguments presented in the paper.

Also, in the literature review the authors are repeated several times. The sources need to be diversified - the authors need to search and cite more seminal works than they cite now.

When you mention administrative age, are you refering to chronological age?

In qualitative studies, we do not formulate hypotheses. We propose specific goals. Also, goals should be presented at the the end of the literature review, before Methodology.

In Methodology: When did the interviews take place? Why only three participants? Is there a good argument to have only 3 participants?

Participants: I got very confused reading the results. Is Emile a man or a woman? The authors use all the pronouns. Is Tia the same person as Marie?

On page 7: Psychic? Do you mean psychological?

Results: It would be interesting to explore the motives for decreased job satisfaction. You mention less opportunities for development, but what about other motives? Maybe routine? Boredom?

In 3.2 - I am not sure if it legitimacy or identity. It is probably the recognition of a professional identity that is valued by the participant.

Discussion: All participants decided to become psychologists. This is a very important result to consider and discuss, and also include in the literature review. It seems that they were searching for meaning in a particular form - "helping others" - that I would consider only one type of vocational orientation. I think it is important to frame this idea in the literature review and further explore it in the discussion.

Also, generalizability of the results is never possible - or even desired - in qualitative studies. When we search for generalizability, we do quantitative studies. I do not think that we should talk about this as a limitation as it would never be possible in such study. The authors can talk about the lack of gender diversity, which of course is a limitation to the interpretation of meaning in later life.