

**Final Report – Professional Development Grant
7th International Conference on Social Science Methodology**

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RESTATEMENT OF PROBLEM

This grant helped to fund my attendance to the International Sociological Association's 7th International Conference on Social Science Methodology.

REVIEW OF THE WORK / PROCEDURE

I presented research entitled "Ethical Examinations of Elder Abuse: Using Literary Ethnographies to Explore the Maltreatment of Vulnerable Populations." Attending the conference enhanced my understanding of methodological trends in international sociology. It also allowed me to expose my scholarship to international colleagues in the field of sociology.

OUTCOMES

I attended the conference and presented my research. Specifically, I met with many other sociologists carrying out research on vulnerable populations. Those contacts and our detailed discussions allowed me to fine-tune the paper and subsequently send it to a peer-reviewed journal for possible publication. In addition, I plan to use a version of this paper as a chapter in a book manuscript I am currently developing.

CONCLUSIONS

This grant allowed me to attend a conference and make beneficial contacts in the field I might not have been able to make without extra funding. It also allowed me exposure to a social world I was previously unfamiliar with. In the future, my observation and participation in the daily routines of Italian life will help me in the classroom as I discuss aspects of culture and globalization. I plan to apply for similar grants in the future in order to aid my scholarship and teaching.

**Note:* I attached a copy of the paper presented to this report. The title is slightly different based on recommendations provided by people at the conference. If you need any other information regarding the use of this grant, please do not hesitate to ask me for it.