

ABSTRACT

A Study of the Relationship between Mandatory Community Service for High School Students and Future Volunteerism

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This study surveyed 100 San Francisco State University students to determine if mandatory community service in high school influenced their intent to volunteer in the future. It also asked whether volunteer history and/or mandatory community service in high school influenced their future volunteerism. It further explored whether the students' opinion toward mandatory community service influenced their future volunteerism. And finally, this study investigated other possible background and demographic factors that have historically been reliable indicators on whether a person intends to volunteer in the future: respondent's own level of volunteer involvement, respondent's parent volunteer involvement, gender, race/ethnicity, and socio-economic status of the respondent's household that he/she grew up in.

The study found, of the above factors, two significantly influenced future volunteerism: respondents' volunteer history and respondents' level of volunteer involvement. For both of these factors, the significance results and the values for chi square and gamma showed that they may have influenced the respondent's intent to volunteer in the future. The initial hypothesis of this research (mandatory community service in high school influences future volunteerism) was not measurable in this study.