Low self-control leads to higher school resistance

Youth newcomers’ educational resistance

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SUMMARY: This research looks at refugee youths’ personality characteristics and how these affect their resistance to education. The aim is to develop a better understanding of what impacts involvement, attachment, and resistance to school and allow stakeholders to help refugees more successfully settle and succeed.

LINK: Click [here](#) to read the executive summary; click [here](#) for the research report

Children with low levels of self-control are more likely to resist school. Those working full-time or who experience discrimination at school are also at greater risk.

What causes resistance?

- **Lack of self-control:**
  - Impulsiveness
  - Thoughtlessness
  - Carelessness
  - Risk-taking
  - Restlessness

- **Increased resistance to school**
  - Estrangement
  - Misbehaviour
  - Truancy

What does NOT contribute to resistance?

- **External factors:**
  - Full-time employment
  - Discrimination at school

- **Family regulation**
  - Strong family structure

- **Family integration**
  - Supportive home environment

Recommendations:

- Assess and place students in proper grade levels
- Provide training to recognize students with low self-control
- Minimize prejudice, differential treatment, and discrimination at school
- Connect students to peers who have good language skills and high aptitude
- Improve financial position of refugee families to minimize the need for refugee youth to work

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