

# Big brothers

Psychology, Motivation



In a narrative format, discuss the key facts and critical issues presented in the case. Big Brothers is a non-profit organization that recruits positive male role models to mentor young boys that are in need of direction. Over the years, Big Brothers has seen a drastic decrease in the number of eligible volunteers. A number of factors could be contributed to this decrease in volunteerism. A downturn in the economy has forced a vast majority of the mentor-eligible population to take in consideration priorities in their lives.

Some people have lost their jobs and in turn do not have the resources to effectively mentor a troubled boy like they may have been able to in the past. Also, increased red tape and the fear of being falsely accused of sexual misconduct have also driven away potential candidates. Volunteers are not the only factor that plays a vital role in potential demise of the program, but donations are on the decline as well. With the worldwide economic recession, more and more people are making tough choices about charitable donations.

While Big Brothers is notorious for leading adult males into believing that it takes very little money to be a Big Brother, the fact remains that it takes money to travel to spend time with the boys, as well as to participate in activities that interest the child and keep him out of trouble.

1. Based on the Read section, which, if any of the motivational theories, have been used by Big Brothers up to this point? Thus far, Big Brothers has used the intrinsic motivation in its efforts to recruit and retain candidates. The organization relies on responsible men to have a sense of meaningfulness.

For example, most boys had often shared negative experiences with adult males. Potential candidates can begin a meaningful relationship with the

young boys. This not only helps teach the boys the value and importance of a strong responsible relationship, but it also gives the adult males a sense of meaning to the boys that are relying on them. A sense of choice is exercised by the adults choosing to take on the responsibility of mentoring boys, while the boys exercise the sense choosing to bond with the adults and staying out of trouble. But most importantly a sense of competence must be exercised by the adults. They must feel that what they are fulfilling the task at hand.

2. What do you think are the primary motivations for adults to participate in Big Brothers? Suggest a plan whereby you, as Executive Director, motivate additional participation by volunteers using the theories presented in the Read and Attend sections. As Executive Director, I would motivate participants by making an initiative to change the long standing rules as it relates to not mixing family life and volunteer life.

Often times, when a person commits unselfish acts, it can make an impact on other people. If a child sees his or her father making efforts to better an unrelated boy's life, that child might possibly take the same measures as he or she gets older. A family oriented man can bring home a boy so the child can see how a normal functional family exists. From personal experience, I have seen my husband volunteer in several capacities, and it has motivated me to become a better, more charitable person as it relates to my time.

As executive director, I would recognize the growing threat of false allegations of sexual misconduct. To protect potential Big Brothers, I would create a central location where Big Brothers could meet their little brothers and spend quality time together. I would solicit local, successful business to help pay for the costs associated with keeping the center open on weekends

<https://assignbuster.com/big-brothers/>

for a recreational center. This initiative could prove costly, however, I firmly believe that using the UnitedWay donations, as well as soliciting pledges from the local population, security and other expenses could easily be paid.