Abstract

For a variety of reasons, there are usually inconveniences when getting data from key subpopulations, particularly from those whose behaviors are illegal or illicit. Non-probability sampling approaches such as network sampling are the simplest to carry out, but are subject to a high risk of sampling bias, whereas most of the probability sampling methods considered are limited because they are only adequate under certain circumstances and for some groups. Considering the difficulties to obtain quality data and information, this paper presents an attempt that has been made to portray an appropriate method and technique to study hidden populations. It explains the approach followed to study trafficked women in Mexico City. Using the time-space sampling and network techniques, the research identified seventy-three trafficked women; sixty were interviewed through a semi-structured questionnaire and thirteen through an in-depth interview.

Keywords

Research methodology, hidden populations, trafficked women, Mexico.