

SURVIVOR LEADERS: A GROUNDED THEORY INQUIRY INTO LEADERSHIP
PRACTICES OF CHILDHOOD TRAUMA SURVIVORS

A Dissertation
presented to
the Faculty of the Graduate School
at the University of Missouri-Columbia

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Doctor of Education

by
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The undersigned, appointed by the dean of the Graduate School, have examined the dissertation entitled

SURVIVOR LEADERS: A GROUNDED THEORY INQUIRY
INTO LEADERSHIP PRACTICES OF CHILDHOOD TRAUMA SURVIVORS

presented by Wendy Lynne Mills,

a candidate for the degree of Doctor of Education,

and hereby certify that, in their opinion, it is worthy of acceptance.

Professor Jeni Hart

Professor Kim Anderson

Professor Carol Maher

Professor Brendan Maxcy

Professor Stephen Whitney

Dedicated to my research participants, with my deep gratitude, admiration and affection.

“It’s an honor to listen to the truth of someone’s life” (Bass & Davis, 1993, p.33).

The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary. Isaiah 50:4 (KJV)

I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead. Philippians 3:13 (NASB)

Bass, E. & Davis, L. (1993). *Beginning to heal: A first book for survivors of child sexual abuse*. Harper Perennial: New York.

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