

# Factors affecting retention of the members of the Linden of Seventh- Day Adventists Church in New York

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## Problem

The empirical model in which pastoral leadership, church programs, interpersonal relationships, support, facility amenities are predictors of retention as perceived by members of the Linden Seventh-day Adventists Church located in Queens, New York, USA.

## Methodology

The research was empirical quantitative, descriptive, exploratory, explanatory and transversal. The study population consisted of approximately 1,550 (1,317 adults and 233 children) members of the Linden Seventh-day Adventists Church located in Queens, New York, USA. An instrument was administered and 110 members from the population responded. The substantive statistical process was established on regression analysis, performed in SPSS 25.0.

The constructs for the instrument used were done through factorial analysis techniques (with explained variance levels of over 60 %, which are acceptable) and the reliability, measured with the Cronbach alpha coefficient for each instrument, was acceptable (with the lowest explained variance levels of .842). For the analysis of this hypothesis, the statistical technique of multiple linear regression was utilized.

## Results

The model was validated with the sample of members of the Linden Seventh-day Adventists Church. It was observed

that pastoral leadership, church programs, interpersonal relationships, support, and facility amenities are good predictors of retention, according to the perception of the members of the Linden Seventh-day Adventists Church. After evaluating the influence of independent constructs through the standardized beta coefficients, it was discovered that the best predictor is membership support, pastoral leadership, followed by facility amenities, and interpersonal relationships.

## Conclusion

It is recommended to the administration (the pastor and pastoral team) of the Linden Seventh-day Adventists Church to examine their membership support ministries and develop programs to meet the needs of its members. Members should be encouraged to take advantage of programs the church provides to enhance their spiritual, psychological and physical welfare. Simultaneously, a church community involvement plan should be developed to attract more residents of the surrounding communities. In addition, the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists should be conscious of the pastors elected to serve at the Linden Seventh-day Adventists Church. The study reveals that focus should be placed on member support, pastoral leadership, facility amenities and interpersonal relationship of the members since these variables directly impact the retention of the members. These constructs are all good predictors of membership retention.