**Reflection**

This project has provided a break down of steps that are needed to conduct proper academic research. Before this assignment I had done very little research, let alone, evaluation research with real life implications. Learning how to create an ethical survey and then breaking down the responses into the findings was a new skill obtained.

When finding sources for this assignment I made sure I searched for academic sources in various journals. The literature review required many sources to be synthesized to shape that portion of the paper to convey the message I was trying to argue. I was able to learn how to analyze and gather multiples perspectives to indicate key issues within the study. When putting the finishing touches on the assignment I searched for more sources to round out the information collected throughout the paper.

I ran into a few challenges while doing research for the assignment because there were several different results that I had to sift through to make sure I used credible and appropriate sources. Also, never having done evaluation research I struggled to make sure I had all the parts needed to complete my research paper. I was able to speak to the professor and ask questions in order to overcome the challenges I encountered. When searching for good sources to use for my research I just continued reading through the different articles.

Through this evaluation research assignment, I have learned many new research skills and received both positive and negative constructive feedback that will further my writing ability. I was unsure about the literature review process before starting but by following the guidelines mapped out, I was able to fully comprehend how to best approach. I was able to build on my knowledge on how to properly write a literature review.

“Think Like a Researcher” has encapsulated everything that I learned about doing evaluation research through this project. Learning new ways of thinking about the variables and finding multiple ways of explaining the importance of various research topics. Also, thinking like a researcher requires the ability to analyze the data received and interpret the findings.