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PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION OF MALADAPTIVE MALE CONSCRIPTS IN A DIVISION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREAN ARMY: ABOUT THE GREEN CAMP PARTICIPANTS

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**Objectives:** In this study, we aimed to elucidate the demographic and psychological characteristics of maladaptive soldiers in the Republic of Korea Army.

**Methods:** Study participants were 110 male conscripts who participated in the Green camp, a kind of group psychotherapy for maladaptive soldiers. All the participants were interviewed and diagnosed by a psychiatrist, and classified into two groups according to whether they left or rejoin the army. We analyzed the difference between these two groups in terms of demographic features, psychiatric diagnosis, and the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) subscores.

**Results:** Compared with soldiers who rejoined their units, those who left military service exhibited significantly lower educational level ( $p = 0.041$ ) and higher rate in psychiatric treatment prior to enlistment ( $p = 0.011$ ). Among the 106 study subjects, 63 (59.4%) and 23(21.7%) were diagnosed as personality disorder and adjustment disorder, respectively. Soldiers who left military service were diagnosed more frequently as mood disorder ( $p = 0.001$ ) and schizophrenia ( $p = 0.014$ ), respectively, than those who rejoined their units. The MMPI scores of soldiers who left military service were significantly higher on the psychasthenia ( $p = 0.028$ ) and schizophrenia ( $p = 0.039$ ) scales than those of soldiers who rejoined their units.

**Conclusion:** Most of the maladaptive soldiers were diagnosed as mental disorder. The results of this study suggest that systematic, consistent psychiatric evaluation and intervention for maladaptive male conscripts is crucial in the army.