What's CBPR Research Practice?

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What's CBPR…

- If science is defined as systematic knowledge, CBPR presents external validation for relevance and validity

- Both Indicators are measured by community response

- This distinction helps asking research questions.

What's CBPR…

- Defining CBPR
- There isn't one definition with standard and prescribed procedures
- CBPR practice is also called: Community-Based Research (CBR), Participatory Action Research (PAR), Action Research (AR);

CBPR…

●Altogether, CBPR is a collaborative research practice that combines scientific methods of inquiry on issues that matter to community;

●In short, it's research by, for and with the community (Chopyak & Rahi, 2003).

Guidelines & Principles

- CBPR is an innovative approach to applied research;

- Creates space to build research skills;

- Distinguished from traditional approach in research (expert-subject relationship);

- CBPR enhances capacity building strategies, bridges gap between knowledge produced and practice to improve peoples lives.

Guidelines …

- Literature says CBPR has numerous scientific and research practice benefits:
- Provides relevance and insights into affected communities and issues; closes gap between process & outcomes, creates team research and partnerships (Jon Salsberg, et al. 2015)

Guidelines…

- CBPR practice consists: affected population defines the problem, selects choice of solutions, designs delivery of interventions (Minkler & Wallerstein, 2003);

- Finally, CBPR practice features: knowledge translation, dissemination and empowerment of affected communities.

Doing CBPR

- Start where the people are, demonstrate community issues matter most, ask research questions for the greater benefits of the community;

- Listen to "hidden transcripts", stories, jokes, dreams messages to increase understanding issues;

Doing…

- Start with community strengths and assets, identify the community to build on strengths, not its problematic;

- Avoid traditional focus on community as pathological and stereotypical and problematic approach;

Doing…

- Maintain authentic dialogue, looking into the sources of community's own knowledge of the issues; avoid researcher's own framing of the issues (Minkler, et al. 2003);

- Translate and disseminate results widely to impact change in affected communities;

- Design disseminating strategies to democratize knowledge.

CBPR Cases

- What does CBPR look like in real life?
- Cases:
- 1. A case of starting where the people are:

Oklahoma, parents discover illness of their children due to contaminated soils in backyard playgrounds.

Cases…

- 2. A case of Environmental Justice & Public Policy, Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice

"Community-Based Research and Public Policy in California's Inland Valley"

Cases…

- 3. Case of diversity, advocacy and empowerment & academic & community engagement:

"Immigrant & Refugee Youth Unemployment" in Toronto, Canada;

Cases…

- 4. A case of building trust among diverse community stakeholders & building partnerships across regional interests:

Annie E Casey Foundation, USA, Local Learning Partnerships.

Concluding Remarks

- CBPR requires patience
- Takes time
- Requires tactful skills to understand community issues
- It could stall data collection and analysis
- Results are rewarding, nonetheless.

Discussion

- Open comments & questions

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