



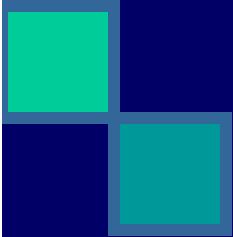
The Power...The Promise



A Brief Review of Community-Based Participatory Research



The power...

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- Science looks for truth, practice looks for what works. What works is true, and what is true works.

- Guy Steuart, 1963






What is true?

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- A single reality on how things *really* are and work, to be studied and captured or approximated

OR

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- Multiple realities to be studied and understood
 - Each an intangible construction; rooted in people's experiences with everyday life, how they remember them, and make sense of them.



The promise...


- [T]he opportunity...for communities and science to work in tandem is to ensure a more balanced set of political, social, economic, and cultural priorities, which satisfy the demands of both scientific research and communities at higher risk.

- John Hatch et al., 1993






CBPR is...

- A collaborative research approach that is designed to ensure and establish structures for participation by communities affected by the issue being studied, representatives of organizations, and researchers in all aspects of the research process to improve health and well-being through taking action, including social change.
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Characteristics of Successful CBPR Partnerships

- CBPR establishes a reciprocal co-learner relationship by creating structures, such as steering committees and feedback loops, for collaborative decision making during each stage of research.
 - Offer workshops to transfer new skills
 - Hold regular meetings to discuss concerns and methodological options
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Characteristics of Successful CBPR Partnerships

- Hire local people as research coordinators
 - Make written plans detailing the types of expertise required at each stage of research
 - Create ad hoc groups or mechanisms for internal review of issues that arise about operations and measures of accountability
 - Appoint researchers as guardians of the data during the study, and return guardianship at the end of the study to a community-controlled decision making body
 - Evaluate co-learning effects
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Characteristics of Successful CBPR Partnerships

- CBPR processes and products have the immediate and direct benefit of using the research for
 - Conceptual purposes to change the way people think
 - Instrumental purposes to change existing programs
 - Persuasive purposes to influence policy
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Major Expected Outcomes from CBPR

- Findings are expected to be used to:
 - Address the original health concern
 - Be applied to a health-related intervention or policy change
 - Be interpreted and disseminated with participants
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Major Expected Outcomes from CBPR

- Additional expected outcomes include
 - community capacity building to integrate questioning with reflection, i.e., the power of research
 - reform of underlying political structures, i.e., social change
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