



THRIVE

Tribal Health and Resilience in Vulnerable Environments

Presenter Disclosures

Tvli Jacob

- (1) The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:**

No relationships to disclose

Documentary
as a tool for community-based
participatory policy work:
The THRIVE study

BACKGROUND

Community-based documentary filmmaking is an innovative participatory research method, building on the tradition of photovoice, and providing community members with video cameras to investigate issues of concern, communicate their knowledge, and advocate for change

Why “participatory” documentary?

- Enables people to record and reflect their community's strengths and concerns
- Promote critical dialogue and knowledge about important issues through large and small group discussion of photographs
- Docs can be disseminated beyond the scope of strict traditional academic publications
- Allows communities to tell their stories
- Reach policymakers

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- A stylized graphic of a plant with several leaves. The leaves are colored in shades of yellow and green, with some leaves pointing upwards and others downwards. The graphic is located on the left side of the slide.
- It is also steeped in the tradition of storytelling as a way to communicate wisdom and knowledge in Native communities



INTRODUCTION

I will tell you something about stories

[he said]


They aren't just entertainment.

Don't be fooled.

They are all we have, you see,

all we have to fight off

illness and death.



You don't have anything
if you don't have the stories

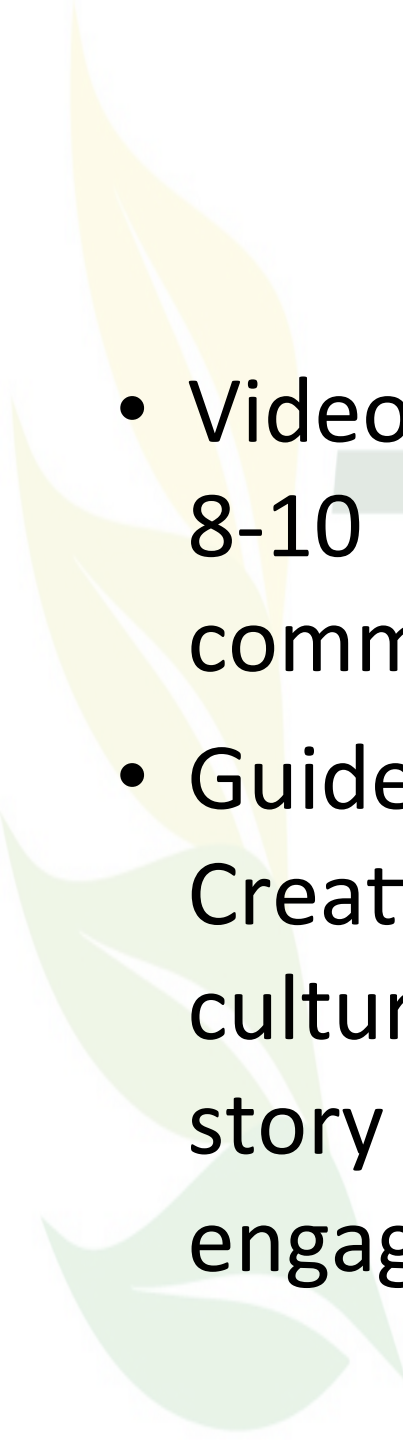
-From *Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko

Community-based documentary filmmaking

Used throughout the THRIVE randomized trial study to develop and implement “healthy makeovers” in tribally-owned convenience stores in Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations of Oklahoma

Documentary used as participatory research method in 3 ways

1. collect qualitative and environmental footage for **community assessment and planning process**
2. Disseminate video via community screenings followed by facilitated talking circles **to prioritize intervention strategies**
3. **channel collectively-defined priorities** to policy decision-makers for implementation

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- A large, stylized leaf graphic in shades of green and yellow, positioned on the left side of the slide. The leaf has a central vein and several smaller veins branching off it. The overall shape is elongated and tapers towards the top.
- Video footage collected by 2-3 teams of 8-10 (18+) tribal members in each community
 - Guided by the Social Impact Model for Creative Media, which begins with a culturally appropriate and compelling story and uses awareness-raising and engagement methods

- In addition to informing intervention design and implementation, as well as evaluation, documentary will be used to create web-based manual to guide other tribal communities in implementing strategies to improve the food environments

CHALLENGES

- Participation
- Tribal/community input and understanding
- IRB
- Comprehension
- Participants holding back on sharing out of fear

OUTCOMES

- Qualitative and environmental data, collected from “citizen scientists” most affected by the issue
- Empowerment
- Creating a story for healing (positive health outcomes)
- Showing the results of study and sharing with others
- Having a record of these stories
- Bringing communities together
- Not another “research” study in tribal communities, but action research for change