

VOICE AND CREATIVITY IN RESEARCH

Young Women and Intimate Partner Violence, the way
that research can be a meaningful conduit between
lived and living experience and policy - with impacts
for both

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Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands in which we meet. I recognise and pay my respects to the spiritual connection to Country, the commitment to Reconciliation and Healing and work for justice undertaken and continued to be undertaken by First Nations people. I would like to acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging and thank them for their wisdom and guidance.

I thank First Nations people for their continued custodianship of the lands and waterways on which we live and meet. I extend this respect to any First Nations people present today.

First Nations sovereignty of this land was never ceded.



PhD Research from a Practitioner -ResearcherArtist lens

Supervised by Associate Professor Catherine Flynn (Monash) and Associate Professor Faith Gordon (ANU)

What is a Practitioner - ResearcherArtist

- Positionally
- Practitioner-Researchers seek to fuse the divide between research and practice in social work (Uggerhoi & Wisti, 2020)
- Common in Feminist-based research in areas such as sensitive issues, sexual assault and family violence
- The practical and emotional realities of the research on the participants and the researcher (Taylor-Dunn, 2023)
- Incorporates Social Work Practice skills into the research itself
- “New lens on old setting” (Bloom, 2022)





What is voice in research?

Voice is a form of intrinsic identity and worldview (McGarry, 2016). It is an expression of meaning and a tool of meaning making (Eriksen & Kress, 2008) It involves the lived and living experience of research

Less about “giving voice” in research, rather this is about creating platforms for voice to be centred and expressed on someone’s own terms

What this research is about

- Lack of youth focused service sector for young women who experience Intimate Partner Violence in Australia (Johnston, Flynn & Gordon, 2022)
- Traditionally, there has been a primary prevention response for young people
- Similarities and differences in experiences of violence and abuse. However, there are distinct differences in young women's experiences of youth intimate partner violence
- Strengths, resilience and resistance focused

How were young women responding to, surviving and recovering from their intimate partner violence experiences given there were no services or supports widely available to them?



How the Research has been done

- Qualitative and Creative approaches
- Platform for young women to express themselves on their own terms
- Ethic of care for their experiences, including their living experiences of being involved in the research
- Qualitative interviews with 12 young women across Victoria
- Each could participate in up to 3 interviews over 12 months
- Develop a creative output which was photographed.
- Creative Output turned into a Zine, to return the research



Practitioner Researcher Artist Approach

Key Points, developing a “Ringlet” model of research

- Returning the research
- Research outputs can be developed in ways that support recovery / healing
- Expressing self on own terms- platforms for voice
- Social work practice skills during interviews
- eg. validating, acknowledging, responding to disclosures, equalizing, sharing emotions
- An Ethic of Care
- Genuine follow up - warm referrals, secondary consultations, safety plans
- Continuity

Key Learnings

The value of Researcher-Practitioner-Artist Approaches is that it allows a way where research can be done differently and creatively. It enables layers of lived and living experience to be centred in the research process.

- The centring of voice and lived and living experience
- An ethic of care is used and practice skills and knowledge are incorporated into research processes
- Designs are kept flexible, responsive and evolving
- Strengths based and resilience focused

Implications

- Issues can be seen and understood differently
- Knowledge translation and the application of research
- Highlight advocate for responses in multi-layered ways

From here: Zine completion, Findings Papers



THANK YOU FOR JOIN

I would like to provide this space to answer any questions or reflections

If you would like to access any supports following this session:

Family and domestic violence 24hour support is available on 1800 RESPECT
Sexual Assault Crisis Line (SACL) 1800 806 292

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