Building the basis for evidence based library and information practice.

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Evidence Based Practice

"an approach to decision making in which the clinician uses the best evidence available in consultation with a patient to decide upon the option which suits the patient" (Gray, 2001).

What is evidence based practice in the library and information context?

How is evidence based practice experienced by library and information practitioners?

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The project

Australian Research Council

2013-2015

Two sub-studies:

- Public library using Ethnography

- Academic library using Grounded Theory

More information:
http://tinyurl.com/EBLIPResearchProject

Academic Library - Findings

Miller, F., Partridge, H., Bruce, C., Yates, C., & Howlett, A. (submitted) How Academic Librarians Experience Evidence-Based Practice: A Grounded Theory Model. Library and Information Science Research

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- Empowering
  - *Being empowered* by clients, colleagues and institutions through improve practice or performance; and
  - *Empowering* clients, colleagues and institutions through improved practice or performance.

"I judge how I'm going by my interaction with the team, so if that it's healthy, I'm meeting deadlines…the quantity of my output…if I get that occasional thank you from a researcher or a good class evaluation…I'm fairly confidence that …I'm earning my wage at least" (Participant 6)

- Intuiting
  - *Being intuitive* to understand colleagues, clients and institutions; and
  - *Using own intuition*, wisdom and understanding of library staff/clients' behaviours to solve problems and re-design services.

"I've learnt to trust my gut, and…I'vs learnt not to be scared to invite someone into office and say 'are you alright'?" Participant 1

- Affirming
  - *Being affirmed* through receiving and sharing feedback; and
  - *Using affirmation* to strengthen support for action.

"I think I am performing…effectively when my colleagues give me positive feedback or include me in…'can you join this thing because your input is important or we value your input'". Participant 8

- Connecting
  - *Being connected with clients; and*
  - *Building connections* with clients, colleagues and institutions.

"maybe it's a bit social too…I think it's not just that you're a nice person or anything…it enables you to have a big picture of where the [organisation] sees its goind". Participant 8.
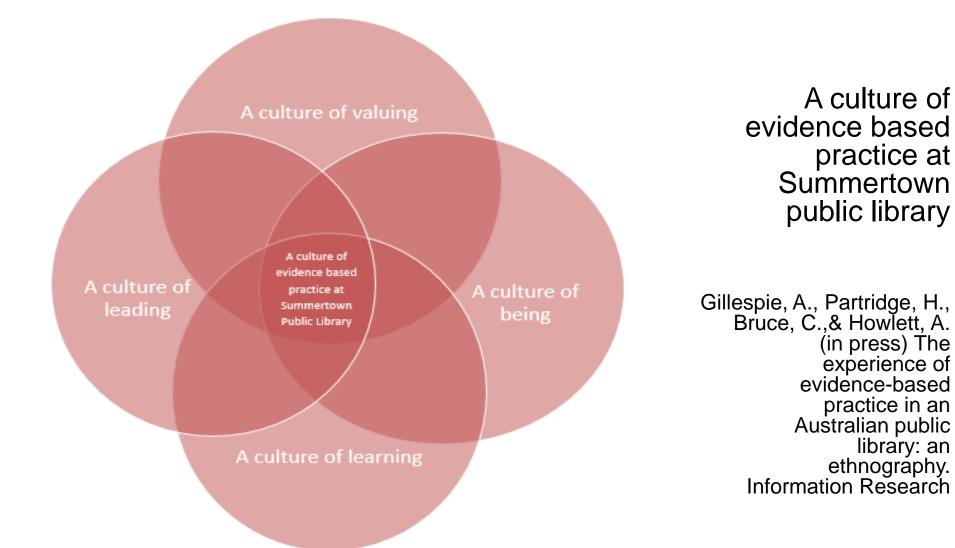
- Noticing
  - *Being actively* aware of, observing and reflecting on clients, colleagues and literature within and outside of own university, and;
  - *Noticing* patterns in data to inform decision-making.

"So I've got a library guide which is all about how to reference in APA style and I was looking at the statistics for the site because I really want to know how many students are actually accessing it". Participant 1

- Impacting
  - *Being impactful* on clients, colleagues and institutions, and;
  - *Having a visible impact* on clients, colleagues and institutions.

"I interacted with staff and students to make myself more known". Participant 1
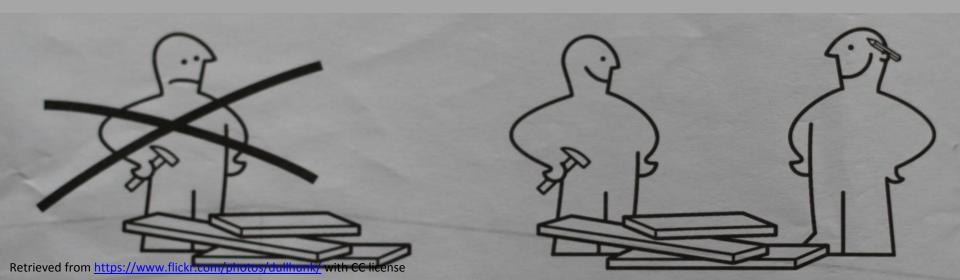
Public Library - Findings

A culture of evidence based practice at Summertown public library

Gillespie, A., Partridge, H., Bruce, C.,& Howlett, A. (in press) The experience of evidence-based practice in an Australian public library: an ethnography. Information Research
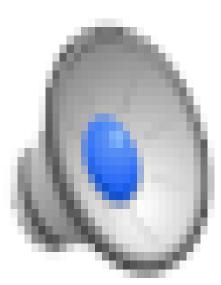
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But *wait,* there is more!

thank you.
Questions?
Discussion?

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