



ASSR News

Te Rōpū Kairangahau Tikanga-ā-iwi o Aotearoa Pānui

November 2008

September Forum

Date: Wednesday 1 October 2008

Time: 12.15 p.m.

Place: Department of Internal Affairs,
Cnr Waring Taylor & Lambton
Quay (Nth side of Midland park)

Topic: Making Connections / Gathering
Resources: How can emerging
researchers build capacity and capability?

Speaker: Dr James Liu – VUW

Dr Liu presents a case study in how to build employer and postgraduate links in the New Settler research field while strengthening social and professional support networks for emerging researchers.

James Liu Hou-fu has taught at Victoria University since 1994, and has published widely on restorative justice, Asian social psychology, and is working on establishing a bicultural psychology for Aotearoa/New Zealand. He is the Deputy Director for the Centre for Applied Cross Cultural Research at Victoria University.

CONVENOR'S CORNER

For the November Forum we pick up the theme from the August Forum – 'building capacity and capability' – we will hear about the BRCSS New Settler initiatives and what bridging is happening between the worlds of academia and employment.

For the December Forum Tai Walker will outline some of the developments occurring among Maori. This is also the Xmas session so the usual orange juice, strawberries and mince pies will be available for Forum attendees.

We plan to follow up in the New Year with developments for Pacific researchers and there is a SPEaR/BRCSS workshop likely in April.

The ASSR website discussion group hit a snag – we got it up and tested, then before we could publicise – it disappeared – apparently the software decided that no traffic for a week or three meant it should be deleted. Well now we are trying other software that won't do this. – Michelle deserves a medal for her work on the site.

Spring weather – humph a lovely calm sunny day then a week of iffy stuff – role on Feb.

And a snippet for all those who have wondered about the smoking substitute trial – yes it worked in that I got a reduction. No I wasn't giving up. Yes I got some more of the product. Yes I have used a bit. Yes I will use some more.

Raewyn Good – Convenor r.good@xtra.co.nz

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ASSR OCTOBER FORUM

Evaluation as 'social practice' - developing the right disposition, tools and relationships to make a difference. Geoff Stone, Senior Analyst (Research and Evaluation), Centre for Social Research & Evaluation, Ministry of Social Development (with Kathy Fielding: kathy.fielding002@msd.govt.nz: geoff.stone@minedu.govt.nz)

Seventy minutes was simply not enough time to digest what was a high-speed tour, of an innovative monitoring tool, and the necessary evaluator dispositions and “stakeholder” relationships needed to make it work, given by its co-author, researcher Geoff Stone.

In the space of just over an hour, attendees at October’s ASSR Forum were inundated with mind maps, spreadsheets, presentation handouts and short explanatory documents. Luckily, there was no PowerPoint presentation, as this would only have distracted from Stone’s spirited discussion of the more unorthodox aspects of the spreadsheet-based tool he developed to extend the possibilities for evaluation research of family violence prevention programmes.

The tool was developed in 2007 while Stone was in the Community and Family team at the Centre for Social Research & Evaluation at MSD. Working with lead evaluator Kathy Fielding (unable to attend, with apologies), they designed an evaluation project that would use computers to encourage Child and Youth Advocates to report on their actions, and results for clients, in a different way. In doing so, Advocates were challenged to radically think about the fundamentals of their work - their contexts, methodologies and impacts -- and to take part in what Stone repeatedly described as a “paradigm shift.”

The MSD/Family and Community Services initiative being evaluated by Fielding and Stone, involves contracting 45 Advocates for child and youth witnesses of family violence, over a period of 18 months. The role description is very broad and called for a competence and experience level equating to a senior social worker. The operational context was also quite complex. Advocates were situated in host community organisations with an interest in family violence prevention (e.g. women’s refuges, Barnardos, various family counselling and child-abuse prevention agencies) and were expected to complement or enable other family violence initiatives such as Te Rito family violence collaboratives and the Campaign for Action on Family Violence (a social marketing campaign).

Beginning with 10 NGOs, and then extending to include a further eight, the MSD evaluation team drew on an evaluation methodology designed for an earlier NGO capability-building exercise, cumbersomely entitled the Family Violence Prevention Self-evaluation Project. While the FVPS-E project had stalled, the team believed they could recycle key aspects of this earlier project, particular the focus on identifying organisation’s “theories of change”, and creating a monitoring system based on those.

“So we reframed the initial request for an impact evaluation of the Child-Youth Advocates as a process-outcome evaluation.” This new brief permitted the evaluators to get each Advocate and host agency to begin articulating their theories of change [or theories of action] including the local conditions or circumstances, in order to understand the intervention relative to that local context, and the early results achieved through the intervention of Advocates. The monitoring system was developed on that basis. and the tools and the relationships were built on that intention..”

This involved a lot of relationship-building during the following one and a half years, with all the attendant pressures. There was “a lot of tension in NGOs about already being over-burdened with compliance problems associated with reporting”. For the evaluation team, there were frustrations connected with wanting to build credibility by being useful to NGOs, while also providing government with what it wanted, even though it was unclear how good evaluation data might inform government decision-making.

Asked by an ASSR audience member to discuss how the evaluation works as a social tool, Stone’s reply made it clear that open and enabling relationships, self-examination and intentional changes in work practices were central to the project. Stone touted “social betterment” as the overarching evaluation goal – in this case for children and young people.

“My training is in narrative therapy, so there’s an expectation that you try and understand people’s self-psychology and their world view, and you work with them in that. So if you’re thinking about

evaluation as ...a relational activity and you want to understand how people can shift and change in their own terms and in a way that's valuable to others, then that has a lot of meaning in terms of the evaluation design that you use. So [the evaluation approach] had to be participative. We had to construct a learning and evaluative team—and we really had to define the social problems that we were trying to act on.

“That allowed us to privilege the idea of developing theories of change or action, using logics, which are new concepts, new language [for the practitioners]. Stone suggested that individuals and organisations have their own common sense understanding of these things, but this understanding is not necessarily obvious to others, and does not easily translate into credible evidence of their effectiveness.

A key achievement of the evaluation was that the social practitioners learned to grapple in new ways with the idea of what counted as evidence, and that individuals' stories could be a valid form of such evidence. “People have very powerful stories to tell about change they'd noticed...You'd have these meetings where people would get incredibly enthusiastic about what they'd managed to achieve, and then you say, 'Well, is this what you've observed? Is this a third-party anecdote? Or is this based on some formal rigorous observation over time? How can you confirm this? To what extent is this happening?’” Stone indicated that what the evaluation team added was a way of structuring stories as credible evidence – describing initial conditions, the intervention or “good practice” undertaken by the Advocate (while noting other enabling factors) and the consequent results for others (change to initial conditions).

The evaluation team wanted the advocates to be more specific and systematic. Stone was trying to get very particular about the things that qualify as domains of change, and the nature of the change considered “significant”, relative to an undesirable earlier state. “What kind of change are we talking about? Are we talking about an individual child who is less aggressive and has more skills than they had before, or an individual child who is physically safe in a way that they weren't before.” “But it maintains [Advocates] own sense-making process. So that's why the tool is having two bob each way, and it seems to work.”

Stone stressed that this was effectively a paradigm-shifting moment, aided considerably by evaluation methods such as “Significant Change Technique”, the use of an issues and incidents log” to capture “need”, or initial conditions requiring change, and an emphasis on building a community of practice among evaluation savvy Advocates. The heart of the evaluation methodology was the Advocate Monitor, a self-reporting monitoring tool—an Excel spreadsheet—that practitioners downloaded from a website established to support the evaluation. The “Advocate Monitor” was a template used to record up to three “significant change” stories each month, with the most important singled out special mention in a monthly report that could be generated by clicking a button. The regular filing of these stories essentially became a record of change in the field of family violence affecting children in each community, accompanied by contextualising quantitative information detailing client demographics and programme delivery information.

While based on self-report, the Monitoring Tool was designed to encourage critical peer review. The “significant change story” selection and categorisation process was expected to involve Advocates, their managers and/or supervisors, or even the Family Violence Collaborative to which they affiliate.

Considering the Advocate Monitor in more detail, it has four parts to it: [1]“a counting part, [2] what we've called a Significant Change part, which is, What do you notice that's good, and why do you think it's good? [3]The Issues and Incidents log, which is, What are you concerned about, and what are you doing in response to that or what could you do? And [4] the last bit is what we refer to as the Dashboard, which pools all that information into a two-page view of the performance of the position over a month. But also it provides time series data, so not only does it report on what's happening this month, it reports on how that looks relative to the other months.”

Aside from driving self-conscious and recorded changes in practice, the success of the evaluation project depended on the acceptance and reliable use of the Excel monitoring tool, and its ability to produce a useful summary “dashboard report”, including a narrative explanation giving the story behind the stats.

The dashboard report was also structured so that the data it contained could readily be analysed using qualitative data analysis software such as NUDIST. Another Excel-based tool was developed to extract the data from all the reports received from Advocates and organise it for the purposes of

subsequent analysis and the production of a “meta-report”. However, this second tool was not completed in time to provide analysis for the final evaluation report being completed by Fielding.

Importantly, using the monitoring tool required a substantial investment of time, not just in writing the stories, but in learning to use the Excel template, which was in development and liable to change based on Advocate feedback. Excel was unfamiliar to many of the practitioners, and using a computer was not second nature to some.

For this reason Stone originally intended that NGO’s have access to an easy to use internet based version, with the Excel tool being a backup option. Excel became the default application due to budget constraints. Still, there were some notable successes, such as the Maori kuia, an Advocate and very experienced social worker, but an unconfident computer user, who got help from a tech savvy colleague to retrospectively input months of data. And there was another Advocate, again a veteran social worker, who initially was very sceptical about taking the time to fill in the Monitor and furthermore had no experience with Excel. Both these professionals would eventually provide some of the best quality evidence and unequivocally promoted the value of tool, Stone said.

Some also used the Advocate Monitor in ways not initially anticipated. For example, the Maori Advocate Stone mentioned is an influential practitioner who oversees the activities of many staff in her agency dealing with families affected by family violence. “They work from a particular [Kaupapa Maori] model. She used the tool particularly to kind of gauge or audit their practice for her own stuff, and her own colleagues. So one of the things, given her professional development remit, that she worked with most intensively was identifying the kind of capacity gaps for her own staff, ...and actually recording that. So she used the tool as a way of, in a sense, auditing the performance of her own organisation and actually the way in which it shifted, as well as using it to describe what was happening in the family court, local school, and other institutions that she was intending to act on. So I thought that was a kind of remarkably robust thing to do.”

As for the evaluator disposition that seeks “social betterment” – a main tenet of Stone’s approach, he indicated little trouble in joining with Advocates in trying to get results for children and young people. “It seems that—the thing that particularly I get excited by is the way of capturing evidence of shift, and of being able to put their own value on it. So, rather than government saying, these are the outcomes we really value and want [government’s emphasis has been on outputs], and that’s what you have to describe, it’s NGOs saying, this is what we noticed and this is why we think it’s important. That’s what excited them [Advocates and host NGOs], because we were able to both confirm some initial theorising about outcomes, but we also were able to generate new theories about outcomes. Consequently, Stone maintains, many NGOs have wanted to continue using the tool beyond the period of the evaluation, and some want to adapt it for use across all their various services.

Further links

Much of the material Geoff Stone presented as handouts during the Forum are available online through his blog, hosted on the social networking site Ning. Comments are welcome (free registration required).

<http://evaluation-guidance.ning.com/profiles/blog/show?id=2334639%3ABlogPost%3A21>

The mindmap referred to by Stone is here in better detail here:

<http://www.mind42.com/pub/mindmap?mid=2e756c77-81b4-4c70-a3c7-154f5b974ee1>

The Excel spreadsheet monitoring tool can be downloaded here:

<http://api.ning.com/files/nlpONWN3T1aGmZgpHAVyffZJzf-WY2SpHKeyMhiERZiO-VjNghkLZyf3jF00iupSvC4-r6oAiS6yhJIXOjpRpvhsTgNTIFcA/AdvocatemonitorD09.1.xls>

An audio recording and rough transcript of the Forum can also be found at Geoff Stone’s blog, or by emailing the ASSR write-up member (tka.lee@gmail.com).

Write up – Tony Lee

August Forum – Matter Arising - Safety of research

This is an important issue so I have put the full e-mail in here – thanks Kay [Ed]

"I was interested in the point raised in the write-up of the August forum as
"One intriguing idea to emerge was the possibility of leveraging the Health & Safety Act to impose ethical requirements on research. The Act requires employers to ensure that safety protections and protocols are in place to prevent workplace harm. This could theoretically be interpreted as an impetus to develop an industry-wide ethics standard. Others in the audience, however, pointed out that the Act is commonly interpreted as pertaining to physical harm, which was seen as more urgent from a safety perspective."

I discussed this issue with our HSE (Health & Safety in Employment) policy advisor who endorsed the coverage of the HSE Act to the situation you describe. She said that under the Act, all employers have HSE responsibilities towards staff and in the case of a university it has a duty toward staff and a duty of care towards students. This would normally be the responsibility not of the Ethics Committee, but of the Safety Manager of the organisation, including of a university.

The HSE Act covers both physical hazards and other hazards including stress. There have been Court cases where an employer has been prosecuted and convicted for not protecting an employee from work related stress. The same principles would relate to students carrying out research. And would also apply to research subjects, or people directly affected as a result of the research.

The HSE Act creates a responsibility on the employer towards staff, and also to clients or customers or other person(s):

S15 Duties of employers to people who are not employees Every employer shall take all practicable steps to ensure that no action or inaction of any employee while at work harms any other person.
<http://gpacts.knowledge-basket.co.nz/gpacts/reprint/text/2006/an/025.html>

The Act also applies to volunteers, and to persons receiving on the job training or gaining job experience.

There is a discussion of legal implications of Workplace Stress at
<http://www.ers.dol.govt.nz/law/case/themes/mar-06.html>
 And of Workplace Bullying -
<http://www.ers.dol.govt.nz/law/case/themes/nov-05.html>
 And of what is a lawful instruction -
<http://www.ers.dol.govt.nz/law/case/themes/mar-05.html>

The OSH publication - "Healthy Work - Managing Stress in the Workplace" may not be directly relevant, but it indicates that employer responsibility is wider than immediate physical hazards See
<http://www.osh.dol.govt.nz/order/catalogue/3.shtml>

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ROYAL SOCIETY NEWS

The gateway to New Zealand science: www.rsnz.govt.nz or www.rsnz.org.nz



Study calls for insomniacs Wellington, Oct 28; NZ Press Association

Massey University's psychology clinic is seeking people for a study to find the most effective treatment for people with sleeping difficulties and anxiety

The university's psychology clinic in Wellington is running the group therapy service, which clinical psychology student Fernanda Mottin will examine as part of her doctorate. The clinic is recruiting people who have longstanding difficulties either falling or staying asleep **and** who worry too much. Participants would have to pay for the sessions delivered by a registered clinical psychologist, but those taking part in Ms Mottin's research project would be offered a subsidy.

"My research will examine the components and outcomes of the treatment by looking at the direct effects, such as improvement in sleep and reduction in anxiety symptoms, as well as the broader repercussions, such as improvement in quality of life," Ms Mottin said.

Participants would be asked to fill in an additional questionnaire and would be contacted three months after the group finished for a follow-up assessment of about one hour. Insomnia and anxiety were often linked and the treatment would target both to be more effective. Applicants would undergo a free assessment to determine whether they fit the group criteria.

NZPAWGTsmckknb 28/10/08 12-23NZ

Old and new viruses spread by air travel, crowding Washington, Oct 27 Reuters

Dengue fever making a come back after decades of eradication, conference hears

Tourists traveling by plane and the growth of cities are combining to help new and old infections spread around the world, experts said on Monday. Viruses such as Chikungunya and dengue fever are finding new homes or returning to places where they were eradicated, the researchers told an infectious diseases meeting. And new methods of diagnosing infections have led to the discovery of dozens of viruses causing often-serious disease.

"As urbanisation spread, so did the mosquito," Duane Gubler of the University of Hawaii told a news conference at a joint meeting of the American Society of Microbiology and the Infectious Diseases Society of America.

Researchers at the Pan American Health Organisation told the meeting that dengue fever, which can cause mild illness or deadly hemorrhagic disease, has come back after decades of eradication successes in Latin America. They said 1.03 million cases of dengue were reported in the 1980s and 2.7 million in the 1990s, but 4.6 million were reported from 2000 to 2007. The "re-emergence of epidemic dengue is closely associated with global urbanisation and global transportation," Gubler said. "Pathogens of all kinds - many of them actually move in infected people but they also move in infected animals and mosquitoes."

New infections are a threat, as well. Dr. Ian Lipkin of Columbia University in New York said his lab, using new genetic sequencing techniques, has identified 75 new pathogens - including a new rhinovirus that has caused serious disease in "scores of children" around the world.

Rhinoviruses are spread person-to-person only and usually cause common colds but this version appears more like severe influenza, Lipkin told the news conference. "It was literally under our noses and in our noses for a long time," Lipkin said. "It has been found in Asia, Africa, Oceania, North America and Europe," he added. "It clearly is an important pathogen."

Reutersrf 28/10/08 08-45NZ



CASTING THE NET

For regularly updated News, Events, research jobs, useful links for the social science sector – go to www.spear.govt.nz **The next Linkages Round closes at 5pm 7 November. The following round will close 1 May 2009.**

Extract from: Expert Data Users News – 29 October 2008 You can also view the Expert Data Users News online at:

www.stats.govt.nz/products-and-services/newsletters/expert-data-users-news/29-oct-8.htm

“2006 Census products and services review 2. 2011 Census submissions report 3. Recent and upcoming releases

“2006 Census products and services review Statistics New Zealand is currently reviewing the products and services from the 2006 Census of Population and Dwellings.

Our aim is to assess the overall effectiveness of the 2006 Census products and services by seeking user feedback on use of the products and services, and assessing the topic areas covered, accessibility and timing of the products. As key users of our data, your feedback will help us evaluate the success of the census products and services. Your comments will also be considered in the planning and development of future census products and services.

The 2006 Census products and services survey is available from Tuesday 28 October to Tuesday 11 November 2008 and can be accessed via the Statistics NZ website:

www.stats.govt.nz/census/about-2006-census/2006_Census_review_of_products_and_services.htm

Please feel free to forward this information to other users of census data who may have not received this newsletter, and encourage them to complete the survey.

For further information, please email census2011@stats.govt.nz or call on 0800 CENSUS (236787).

2011 Census submissions report

The 2011 Census Submissions Report is due for release in **mid-November 2008**.

It will provide a summary of submissions received during recent public consultation on the 2011 Census content, and outline the next steps in the process of determining the final content....

Extract from lcapo@crime-prevention-intl.org

Children Speak Up by Monideepa Sahu

In order to expand children's participation within local government in India, the Karnataka state government's panchayati raj ministry made it mandatory for all panchayats [villages] to provide children with a platform to put their concerns forward directly to elected representatives at special children's "gram sabhas" [children's assemblies]. Issues that have been brought to the fore by children include, for example, alcoholism and the violence and poverty that the children associated with it, lack of sanitation as a result of stray cattle, and flooding, which blocked the path to school. Children developed solutions (e.g., a wall around the school to keep out stray cattle and a footbridge over the flooded area) which included each community as a whole. They then conducted surveys, collected data, and documented discussions between groups of children, women, and marginalised groups in support of the solutions they developed.

<http://www.comminit.com/en/node/267522/348>

and

The Yiriman Project, Youth Participation and Walking along with Elders by David Palmer

The Yiriman Project, organised by a group of senior Aboriginal people in the West Kimberley region of Western Australia, holds bush trips to bring together young people, elders, and other community members in order to find ways for young people to separate themselves from "negative influences, and reconnect with their culture in remote and culturally significant places." This practice is informed by Participatory Learning Analysis (PLA) or Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) which find their motivations for participation in "the belief that "top-down" development or government has shortcomings..." Through participation, young people feel a sense of equality, unencumbered expression, a right to shape one's future, exchange of ideas and information sharing, free access to public space, universal human rights, and "subsidiarity" or the exercise of power from below.

<http://www.comminit.com/en/node/222916>

October E-newsletter from the Office for the Community & Voluntary Sector available online at www.ocvs.govt.nz - Issue 20

Contents in this issue are:

- 01: New Director for the Office for the Community & Voluntary Sector.
- 02: Assessment of government responsiveness underway.
- 03: International authority Steven Rathgeb-Smith shares relationship insights in NZ.
- 04: 'Living' document lists examples of NZ efforts to build better government engagement.
- 05: November date for next *Good Practice in Action* seminar.
- 06: Glenda McCallum makes the change to ChangeMakers.
- 07: *Keeping it Legal* online, but out of print.
- 08: OCVS Analyst notes similarities & differences at Australian volunteering conference.
- 09: NZ Non-Profit Study reports prove popular.
- 10: New Community Outcomes website gives collaboration a boost.
- 11: Australia looks to National Compact to strengthen relationships.
- 12: Britain releases updated Code of Practice to support English Compact.
- 13: Family of movie star philanthropist encourages acts of generosity.
- 14: Social networking website to help recruit volunteers.
- 15: *Community Internship Programme* helps boost NGO's people power.
- 16: NZ Bioethics Council receives international recognition of public participation practices.
- 17: Various resources and publications for communities and government available.
- 18: Upcoming events & conferences.

WEAVING CONNECTIONS



Summer School Contemporary Critical Theory

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/criticaltheories/>

This innovative and challenging summer school has been held annually at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand since 2003. It was formally known as the Discourse Theory Summer School. Courses offered in 2008 are: Introduction to Discourse Theory (24-28 Nov), Contemporary Continental Philosophy (1-5 Dec), and Post-Colonialism, Feminism and Radical Democracy (8-12 Dec). For the first time this year VUW are convening a one-day conference at the end of the summer school, Conference in Contemporary Critical Theories (13 Dec).

NZAIA 2008 Annual Conference: Assessing Impacts in Coastal and Lake front Environments Tahuna Beach Conference Centre, Nelson, 27-28 November

The conference will be of interest to anyone involved in decisions about resource development in the coastal and lake-front environments, at the local and regional level (including policy planners and consents officers in local and regional councils), iwi, environmental and public health staff, environmental consultants, academics, and local community groups. The international keynote speaker for this year's conference is Professor Nick Harvey, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Adelaide.

Conference details and information on accommodation options in the local area will be posted on the NZAIA web site (<http://www.nzaia.org.nz>) For further information, refer to the NZAIA web site or contact Prof. Richard Morgan (Chair of the organizing group), Department of Geography, University of Otago, Dunedin. email: rkm@geography.otago.ac.nz web site : <http://www.nzaia.org.nz> email : sec@nzaia.org.nz

Footprint Books – some of the latest publications www.footprint.com.au

Becoming a Behavioral Science Researcher: A Guide to Producing Research that Matters Rex B Kline. Students and beginning researchers often discover that their introductory statistics and

methods courses have not fully equipped them to plan and execute their own behavioural research studies. This indispensable book bridges the gap between course work and conducting independent research. Pbk 300pp 9781593858377 A\$61.00 NZ\$77.00 2008.08 [more detail](#)

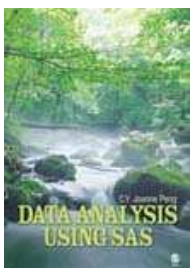
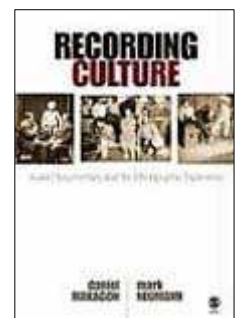
Qualitative Inquiry and the Politics of Evidence Norman K Denzin and Michael D Giardina What is evidence in qualitative inquiry and how is it evaluated? What is true or false in research is strongly influenced by socially defined criteria and by the politics of academia? In providing an alternative to conservative science, qualitative researchers are often victimised by these politics. The interdisciplinary, international group of contributors to this volume address these questions in an attempt to create evidential criteria for qualitative work. Sponsored by the International Center for Qualitative Inquiry bk 288pp 9781598743227 A\$53.95 NZ\$69.00 2008.08 [more detail](#)



Survey Research Methods 4ed Floyd J Fowler, Jr Survey Research Methods presents the very latest methodological knowledge on surveys. Author Floyd Fowler provides students and researchers who want to collect, analyse, or read about survey data with a sound basis for evaluating how each aspect of a survey can affect its precision, accuracy, and credibility. Pbk 216pp 9781412958417 A\$69.00 NZ\$88.00 2008.09 [more detail](#)

Encyclopaedia of Survey Research Methods Paul Lavrakas in conjunction with top survey researchers around the world and with Nielsen Media Research serving as the corporate sponsor, the Encyclopedia of Survey Research Methods presents state-of-the-art information and methodological examples from the field of survey research. bk 1072pp 9781412918084 A\$404.00 NZ\$50.008 2008.09 [more detail](#)

Recording Culture: Audio Documentary and the Ethnographic Experience Vol 53 Daniel Makagon and Mark Neumann Recording Culture: Audio Documentary and the Ethnographic Experience holds up audio documentary as a premiere form of qualitative research which can serve as an inventive method of storytelling. Based in the practices of fieldwork, audio documentary increases the potential for researchers to reach academic and popular audiences and work collaboratively with people in the pursuit and representation of knowledge and experience. Pbk 104pp 9781412954938 A\$33.95 NZ\$42.95 2008.09 [more detail](#)

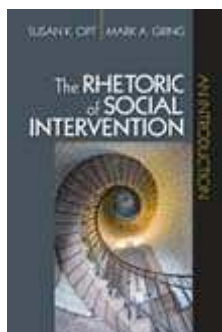


Data Analysis Using SAS Chao-Ying Joanne Peng Data Analysis Using SAS is a comprehensive core text focused on key concepts and techniques in quantitative data analysis using the most current SAS commands and programming language. The coverage of the text is more evenly balanced among statistical analysis, SAS programming, and data/file management than any available text on the market. Pbk 640pp 9781412956741 A\$108.00 NZ\$138.00 2008.08 [more detail](#)

The Logic Model Guidebook: Better Thinking for Great Results Cynthia C Phillips and Lisa Wyatt Knowlton **The Logic Model Guidebook** offers a concise, practical overview of the logic modelling process as applied to numerous organisational contexts. Authors Cynthia Phillips and Lisa Knowlton examine the structures, processes, and language of logic models as an emerging tool that improves the design, development, and implementation of change efforts within programs and greater organisational initiatives. Pbk 168pp 9781412958646 A\$55.95 NZ\$69.00 2008.1 [more detail](#)

Researching Families and Children: Culturally Appropriate Methods

S Anandalakshmy, Neerja Sharma and Nandita Chaudhary *Researching Families and Children: Culturally Appropriate Methods* is a collection of essays on field issues related to research in child/human development, attempting to highlight indigenous methodological issues that arise while conducting human development research in the Indian context. It articulates the dynamics of the process of interaction to provide a transparent and human view of research, giving maximum importance to the perspective of the participant or respondent in each study. Pbk 228pp 9788178298726 A\$49.95 NZ\$63.00 2008.09 [more detail](#)



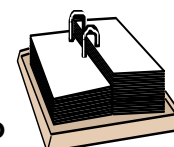
The Rhetoric of Social Intervention: An Introduction Susan K Opt and Mark A Gring Authors Susan Opt and Mark Gring present the first-ever thorough exploration and discussion of the rhetorical model of social invention [RSI] (initially conceived by rhetorical theorist William R Brown) for today's students and scholars. This unique communication-based model provides students with a systemic framework for interpreting, analysing, and critiquing social and cultural change from a rhetorical perspective. Pbk 280pp 9781412956901 A\$71.00 NZ\$89.00 2008.08 [more detail](#)

How to Conduct Surveys: A Step by Step Guide 4ed Arlene Fink The Fourth Edition of this book shares the same goal as the previous editions: to guide readers to developing their own rigorous surveys and to evaluate the credibility of other ones. This new edition continues to give practical step-by-step advice on how to achieve the goal. Written in the same clear and accessible style as her other works, author Arlene Fink has completely revised this edition to reflect changes in the way people prepare surveys, use them with the public, and report the results. Pbk 136pp 9781412966689 A\$58.95 NZ\$74.00 2008.09 [more detail](#)

CALENDAR

<http://www.spear.govt.nz/events/index.html>

lists NZ seminars, workshops and lectures. We have reduced our NZ listings to minimise duplication and encourage you to use that site.



NZ locations have a * to help you find them.

Please send info about social science events, in planning or with announced dates, to r.good@xtra.co.nz

November

*5th ASSR Forum

5th – 7th 2008 Australian & New Zealand Adolescent Health Conference.

"My space, your space, our space: exploring the future of adolescent health together". The University Of Melbourne, Australia. Pre-Conference Workshop 5th November, 2008. This conference will focus on examining new knowledge and understandings around young people, and how we work towards improving their health and wellbeing. Whether it's medical imaging, social networking, or on-line learning, it's time to share knowledge and experience across professions, disciplines and sectors. Call for Abstracts: Closes 30th July 2008. The 2008 Adolescent Health Conference will be hosted by the Centre for Adolescent Health Melbourne Australia. <http://www.adolescenthealth08.com/>

5th – 7th American Evaluation Association 2008 Annual Conference. American Evaluation Association. Denver, United States. The conference is broken down into 41 Topical Strands that examine the field from the vantage point of a particular methodology, context, or issue of interest to the field as well as the Presidential Strand highlighting this year's Presidential Theme of Evaluation

Policy and Evaluation Practice. Presentations may explore the conference theme or any aspect of the full breadth and depth of evaluation theory and practice. Email office@eval.org
<http://www.eval.org/eval2008/>

9th -12th Strength in Unity: Sharing & Building Skills. Melbourne, Vic. The Conference has been designed to cater for a broad range of community sector practitioners, managers, researchers, educators, and policy makers from across Australia and New Zealand. This year's Conference themes include: Indigenous issues; Child safety and family wellbeing; Youth, Women's & Men's issues; Rural issues. <http://www.iceaustralia.com/strengthinunity2008/index.html>; Email: strengthinunity2008@iceaustralia.com; Phone: (02) 9368 1200

17th -18th Children's Health Conference - Health Care for Kids: The People, The Map and The Measure. Sydney, NSW. The conference will focus on three major themes: 'The people' - in particular the shared concerns amongst health professionals and the families struggling with serious health issues; 'The map' - contemporary trends and developments in healthcare practice, policy and environments; 'The measure' - how we can best monitor, evaluate and improve the safety and quality of health care delivered to children and young people. Further information: Conference website - <http://www.kidsconference.org.au/>; Email: sharynlow@pacific.net.au

***18-19th The Australia New Zealand Third Sector Research (ANZTSR) Conference, AUT Campus, Auckland** The ANZTSR conference aspires to DEMONSTRATE the value of research in/by/with/for the community sector and its contribution to enhanced wellbeing of people and planet. Abstract submissions for the ANZTSR conference have been extended and now close on **7 August** and Early Bird Registrations close on the **15th August**.
<http://www.anztsr.org.au/2008%20conference%20web%20home.htm>

***26-28th, Sociological Ass of Aotearoa New Zealand Multidisciplinary Sociology. St Margaret's College, University of Otago**

26th -28th Criminology : linking theory, policy and practice. 21st Annual conference of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology. National Convention Centre Canberra. Hosted by The Australian Institute of Criminology. The Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology (ANZSOC) is devoted to promoting criminological study, research and practice in the region and bringing together persons engaged in all aspects of the field. The membership of the society reflects the diversity of persons involved in the field, including practitioners, academics, policymakers and students. The theme for this year's conference is Criminology: linking theory, policy and practice. This will be woven through a range of sub themes including Indigenous issues, women and the criminal justice system (including questions of human rights and trafficking), financial and technology enabled crime (particularly focussing on global developments in crime control and regulation), victimology and policing and security. <http://www.anzsoc.org/conferences/2008/>

26th-28th 9th International Narrative Therapy and Community Work Conference. Adelaide, Australia. This conference will: consider hopeful work in realms of mental health, violence and abuse, grief, addictions, relationships, trauma, family therapy; include considerations of work with children, individuals, couples, families, groups and communities; include the voices of well-known and respected international practitioners and the perspectives of those who have never before shared their work in these forums; represent a great diversity and plurality of narrative practice; draw attention to the politics of experience and politics of practice (including the politics of gender, culture, class, sexuality and gender identity); enable rigorous discussions, debates, and questioning of practices and their real effects in people's lives (we don't all have to agree!); involve song and other forms of cultural practice throughout the conference experience; enable a range of different sorts and styles of presentation - from keynote addresses, workshops, paper presentations, poster sessions, cultural work, participatory education, video and film viewing, and much more. <http://www.dulwichcentre.com.au/Conference.htm#program>

***27-28 NZ Ass of Impact Assessment '08 "Assessing Impacts in Coastal and lake front Environments, Tahuna Beach Conference Centre Nelson.** Further information: Prof Richard Morgan, rkm@geography.otago.ac.nz or web site : <http://www.nzaia.org.nz> email : sec@nzaia.org.nz

December***3rd - ASSR Forum**

***8-12th Association of Social Anthropologists of Aotearoa/New Zealand (ASAANZ) Conference**
Ownership and Appropriation - a joint international conference of the ASA, the ASAANA and the AAS
 - Auckland <http://www.theasa.org/asa08/index.htm> The conference aims to extend anthropological theory, by shifting the focus from 'property' and 'property relations' to notions and acts of 'owning and appropriating'

2009**January****NO ASSR Forum in January**

***22nd -23rd 11th NZ Early Childhood Research Conference. Wellington NZ.** Call For Papers –
Deadline 29 Aug 2008. The purpose of the conference is to provide a helpful and stimulating forum for researchers to present, and for participants to learn about the latest research, research methodology, and theory in the early years of childhood (0 – 8yrs). The conference is for researchers, student researchers, early childhood service providers, teachers and parents, adult educators, child and family advocates, child health specialists, policy analysts, policy makers.
<http://www.childforum.com/symposium.asp>

***30th Localising Asia in NZ** University of Otago Dunedin. A Symposium Sponsored by the Asia New Zealand Research Cluster. Supported by the Asia New Zealand Foundation and the Division of Humanities, University of Otago Please send abstracts (between 150 - 200 words) and a short bio by 15 October to paola.voci@otago.ac.nz For more information please go to:
http://www.otago.ac.nz/humanities/research/clusters/asianz/localising_asia_symp.html

February***4th – ASSR Forum****March**

4th – 6th Generalised Latent, Linear and Mixed Models. CCSR, University of Manchester, Manchester, UK. The course shows how the concepts of random effects, latent variables and latent classes are related. These concepts are applied to continuous and binary response measures but also to common but less familiar ordinal scores. Factor, growth curve and trajectory models are all covered together with methods for complex missing data and sample designs. Examples are taken from the field of behavioural and social development. The course makes extensive use of the GLLAMM procedure implemented within the STATA program. Email ccsr@manchester.ac.uk
<http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/courses/external/2008-2009/>

April

23rd Social Research and Social Policy. National Centre for Social Research and the London School of Economics, London School of Economics. London. NatCen and LSE are organising a two day international conference for policy-makers and researchers to explore the evolving interrelations between social research and social policy. As well as looking at contemporary challenges within the UK, there will be sessions providing an international perspective and sessions looking at future opportunities and developments. The keynote speakers and parallel sessions will be concerned with critical social issues covering a wide range of policy areas including: * health and lifestyles * social care and ageing * work and welfare * crime and drugs * longitudinal studies * methodological issues for quantitative and qualitative research. Email communications@natcen.ac.uk URL http://www.natcen.ac.uk/natcen/pages/nm_events_2009.htm

***1-3rd Critiquing Pasifika Education @ the University 2009 Biannual Conference, Ngā Wai o Horotiu marae, Auckland University of Technology** Theme: Endangered Languages and Cultures, "What can WE do?", understanding how researchers, students, and language community organisations can work together to address the challenges of language and cultural loss by the Cook Islands Māori, Niue, and Tokelau; Tahiti, Tongan, Samoan, Fijian, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Papua New

Guinea, Vanuatu and the Solomons Islands people in Aotearoa-New Zealand. Look for the *Notes for Contributors* on www.maramatanga.co.nz The deadline for submission of abstracts is Friday 31 October 2008. Registration for the conference will open in January 2009. Accommodation is available at Ngā Wai o Horotiu marae.

*** 10 -12 November 2009 Social Policy Research & Evaluation (SPRE)
Wellington Convention Centre – details will follow as they become available
Save the Dates NOW**

Websites to monitor:

- American conferences try http://www.aeaweb.org/RFE/Conferences/Fut_Conf/index.html
- UK Conferences try <http://www.sosig.ac.uk/help/gv.html>
- NZ – www.spear.govt.nz/
Events, job opportunities, sector news added 3-4 times a week
- General conference search engine try http://socialsciences.academickeys.com/conf_main.php
- Australia and Asia try <http://coombs.anu.edu.au/>
- If all else fails – Google

About ASSR News

ASSR News is published monthly by the Association of Social Science Researchers.

Contributions are welcome and can be on any topic of interest to social science researchers: book reviews, news of conferences, job vacancies, items off the Internet, notices of upcoming events. Feedback is particularly appreciated. If it interests you, it may well interest others.

Send your contributions to **ASSR News** to r.good@xtra.co.nz **Deadline for the next issue is 21 November 2008** Deadlines are usually about the 20th of Each Month. **Electronic copy in Microsoft Word is preferred.**

Advertising rates – contact Raewyn r.good@xtra.co.nz Other correspondence should be addressed to: **The Secretary, ASSR, P O Box 5043, WELLINGTON**

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