Preconference Workshop

Overview: A youth-centred exploratory study with rural and urban Zambian youth regarding their perceptions of civic engagement, gender and community.

(Uutilising CYRM)

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Introduction

• Background and rationale
• Research question and aim
• Utilising CYRM to invoke Narrative
• Cultural Sensitivity
• Research progress to date
UNESCO Chair Interested in

Social Support Networks
including Informal Support
Sources as ‘Nodes of
Resilience
Civic Engagement & Action in Youth as a tool to Resilience

- Social – Altruism (Needs Based)
- Political – Justice (Cause Based)
Perception Relativity and Context

Ingredients in how we perceive Youth as contributors
Background and rationale

UNESCO Chair in Children, Youth and Civic Engagement

1. Research
2. Teaching
3. Policy/Advocacy
4. Practice

• McArdle’s Research contributes to the work of the Chair

UNESCO Medium-term Strategy (2008-2013)

• Africa – Sub-Saharan
• Gender equality
• Youth
Background and rationale

Research rationale

• Zambia 68% of population under 35 years of age
• Child born between 2005 -2010 life expectancy of 42 years of age
• 73 different ethic groups
• Young people face significant risks in their daily lives
• Gender inequalities – manifest in adulthood.
• The Zambian government has set national goals to increase youth participation and respond to gender inequality
Research question and aim

Research Question

• In what way does gender and living in a rural area impact upon the participation of young Zambian people in civic engagement opportunities which may be facilitated by their community?

Research aim

• To generate youth-centred knowledge, which may subsequently inform policy and practice regarding the development of youth civic engagement interventions, which are culturally appropriate and promote resilience
Underpinning approaches

- Resilience Theory – Ecological perspective (Ungar 2007:288)
- Youth-centred practice
- Critical feminist lens
Methodology

International Resilience Project (IRP) (Ungar, 2005)

• Mixed Method Study associated with pragmatism, but has one other philosophical base

(Creswell and Plano-Clark, 2007:27)

Mixed method study

• Triangulated
• Embedded
• Explanatory
• Exploratory
Relevance of research

• May provide information to develop culturally appropriate approaches
• May provide information to inform the development of services that promote gender equality
• May contribute to the knowledge base of International networks, e.g. UNESCO, IRP, Unitwin etc
Exploratory Model

Exploratory mixed method model

MOU
Consent/Assent
Data generation
Analysis/Review
Design Qu
Review Qu
Ratification phase 2
Write up Phase 1

System consent
Distribution of survey
Return of survey
Interviews
Findings/analysis
Write-up phase 2
Ratification phase 3

Sampling
Consent/Assent
Data generation
Findings/analysis
Review of analysis
Write-up phase 3

Final Report
Phase One - Step One – Contextualisation

Setting aims and objectives
Young people and adults

Focus groups
Young People
1 x 8 Males
1 x 8 Females

Focus groups
Adults
1 x 6 Males
1 x 6 Females

Plenary Session

Topics agreed
Locally defined resilience and risk factors
Levels of participation identified
System identified

Power
Phase One - Step Two  Review Forum

Outcomes

• Youth Survey
• Adult Interview Schedule
• Risk and resilience factors
• Levels of participation
• Mapping of services

Phase Two

Phase Three
Participation Nov 09 – March 10

Total = 148
- 76 males
- 72 females

Adults = 68
(18 years of age and above)
- 33 males
- 35 females

Young people = 80
(12, 13 and 14 year olds)
- 43 males
- 37 females
Rural vs Urban

Rural = 85
- 46 Male
- 39 Female

Urban = 63
- 30 Male
- 33 Female

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Conclusion

• Sound background and rationale which is seen to inform the research proposal
• The research definitions and approaches located within the transformative paradigm e.g. advocacy and participatory
• The IRP methodology is being adapted to progress the research
• Mixed method study utilising an exploratory model to work in three provinces, one rural and one urban area in each

• Respond to the overall research question
  – In what way does gender and living in a rural area impact upon the participation of young Zambian people in civic engagement opportunities which may be facilitated by their community?