

When don't you bring yourself?

How intentional are you in bringing that experience to your practice?

What of your own experiences do you bring to your research?

You already bring yourself to your research, whether you name it or not. Participatory research means bringing your identity and lived experience intentionally to the work.



getting true experience, begin closer to the 'truth'

more peer workers

more people disclosing lived and **LIVING**!!!!!! experience

What makes it easier to work this way?

funders expectations at least invite this approach

as Callum said it is becoming normalised (BUT still so often inauthentic)

Explicit agreement to speak your mind

everyone's buy-in & commitment to the process

being involved from the very beginning

Client who gets what it implies - or is willing to have time in the programme to explore their understanding and readiness

Fear of change

Hierarchical leadership

people are afraid to disclose (of course)

might not be accepted

Lack of thought given to emotional impact of the area of focus

slower decision making

What makes it harder?

power-holders' need to control things

lack of money

insufficient time and resources - including time for reflection

uneven power

Being equipped to handle the emotional responses

"research fatigue" from participants

confidence with this method, proof of concept

not considered credible (**am I referring to myself, not the process**)

Where do you feel the gap between how you'd like to work and how you actually do?

perceived organisational resistance


time constraints

being seen as "too radical"

True inclusivity and getting people involved from as early as poss.

In organizations as employee or volunteer

COLLECTIVE



BRAIN POWER

What's one thing you'd like to try but haven't yet?

Appication to some of the very dry policy discussions I lead that are not in the PEOPLE servie areas

'demanding' mandate, speaking the unspoken more

Exploring the shared vulnerability and how that can empower in real terms

It's vulnerable

Be actively involved in an action research project with experienced people

deadlines - needing to show results to funders

What gets in the way of genuine power-sharing in your context?

Acceptance of the approach - are we allowed to share

Structures not living systems approach

power battle, stakes

lack of willingness to change

not seeing the true problem (or problem behind the problem)

lack of political will

lack of transparency and paternalistic cultures

The failure to put discussions of power in society at the centre of all forms of engagement

proven concept

What's something you've learned about participatory research that you wish you'd known earlier?

that I should be paid for my expersive just like anyone else

the value of the open nature of it - I'm taking it to useful places

The most impactful participatory work often doesn't end up in journals - it ends up in changed services, policies & communities that feel heard - harder to cite but not less real

That there are so many people doing this (more in Europe than US)

it's the only way of creating responses that answer to real needs

<https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special-issues/deppivedexperience/>