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Participatory Action Research

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Participatory Action Research

Research plays an essential role in informing the public by adding knowledge to a particular field of study by collecting evidence to prove theories. Therefore, the research aims to improve society by developing scientific concepts, notions, and thoughts. Participatory action research is a method of examination that comprises both participants and researchers uniting to recognize the issues at hand and change it to achieve positive results. This approach has been in utilization since the 1940s. There are several definitions of participatory research; however, they all use the same elements. Some of the features that are used include activities and replication, context-specific and utilizes the iterative cycle of research. Furthermore, participatory action research (PAR) has concentrated on social transformation that enhances democracy and inequality variations (Ozanne & Saatcioglu, 2008). Therefore, another PAR element focuses on a specific group's requirements and tries to free individuals and have a high level of consciousness in their conditions. Also, the approach utilized various methods such as quantitative and qualitative.

Moreover, participatory action research comprises different essential components. For the research to be conducted, there must be action, research, participation and social change. Action is essential as it entails involvement with understanding and past activities; similarly, research will comprise reliability in thinking and acquittance development (Bergold & Thomas, 2012). Furthermore, participation is where individuals in society will be involved, and democracy will bring social change to improve an individual's life and well-being. PAR is characterized by engaging individuals that are being studied. The community usually manages the PAR; therefore, they may decide to employ external assessors to help examine energies; however, the community will control all the scheme. Another characteristic is that the need for action restricts PAR. In this

case, the society will start research to solve a particular problem; thus, it will be controlled by that goal. The assessors will then evaluate the research based on the scope that helps society achieve the goals or redefine it because it will be imaginative and educational. Also, PAR should produce convenient and evocative knowledge because it authenticates local acquaintance (Kidd & Kral, 2005). PAR identifies that participants can examine the conditions and create solutions to the issues affecting them, hence questioning the expectations of what is tallied as knowledge.

PAR allows the community to handle complex challenges by themselves and at the same time utilizing the local methods such as talents. Therefore, best practices can be applied such as encouraging strengths in the community, involved in the community, justifiable solutions and enablement and the use of dialogue and not debate (Kidd & Kral, 2005). Traditional scientific methods use high experimenter control over every concept, and the PAR method uses shared control over research processes. PAR's strengths include involving participants, enhancing teamwork and learning; the weakness is that external people are engaged in conducting and analyzing results. The limitation is that individuals evaluate their situations and hence can be biased. The solution can be by providing the participants with the right information before they start the assessment.

Discrimination has emerged as a problem in the community, and therefore, I would use PAR to identify the solution. First, I will create a collaborative inquiry group. The group must be diverse community members. Then I develop the group's conditions and act on the inquiry questions by utilizing the design and plans and respecting every individual's thoughts. It is in this process that I will keep the records. Then interpret participants' experiences to make meaning. This will entail evading the usual expectations and check validity by focusing on several viewpoints and methods and finally celebrating the meaningful collaboration. awareness

References

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