

EMBRACING DIFFERENCE IN SOCIAL WORK SCHOLARSHIP: *ROLES FOR EMERGING SCHOLARS*

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Introductions



What is research?



Social Work Research is...

- To benefit consumers, practitioners, policy-makers, educators, and the general public through the examination of societal issues such as:
 - ▣ health care, substance abuse, and community violence; family issues, including child welfare and aging;
 - ▣ well-being and resiliency;
 - ▣ and the strengths and needs of underserved populations.
- Social work research provides empirical support for best practice approaches to improve service delivery and public policies.
 - From the Action Network for Social Work Education and Research (ANSWER)

Perspectives on Scholarship

- Four forms of scholarship (Boyer)
 - ▣ scholarship of discovery
 - ▣ scholarship of integration
 - ▣ scholarship of application and engagement
 - ▣ scholarship of teaching and learning



W.E.B. DuBois, founder of the NAACP and opponent of imperialism: "In college I replaced my hitherto egocentric world by a world centering and whirling about my race."

photo credit: Schomburg Center of the New York Public Library

Scholarship of discovery

- Conventional research in the field and the identification or discovery of new ideas or knowledge.



Scholarship of Integration



- Focused on the synthesis and interpretation of current ideas and knowledge, but adds new insights.
- Typically interdisciplinary in its approach.

Scholarship of application

- Brings knowledge into the outside world and also looks to the larger world for new topics and ideas of study.
- Boyer identified this form of scholarship as "particularly needed in a world in which huge, almost intractable problems call for the skills and insights only the academy can provide"



Scholarship of Teaching

- research focused on pedagogical methods
- Identifying effective teaching methods



Discovery

- Harlap, Y. (2005)
- Protecting and preparing children : peace activist parenting in a post 9/11 world.
- Discourse analysis



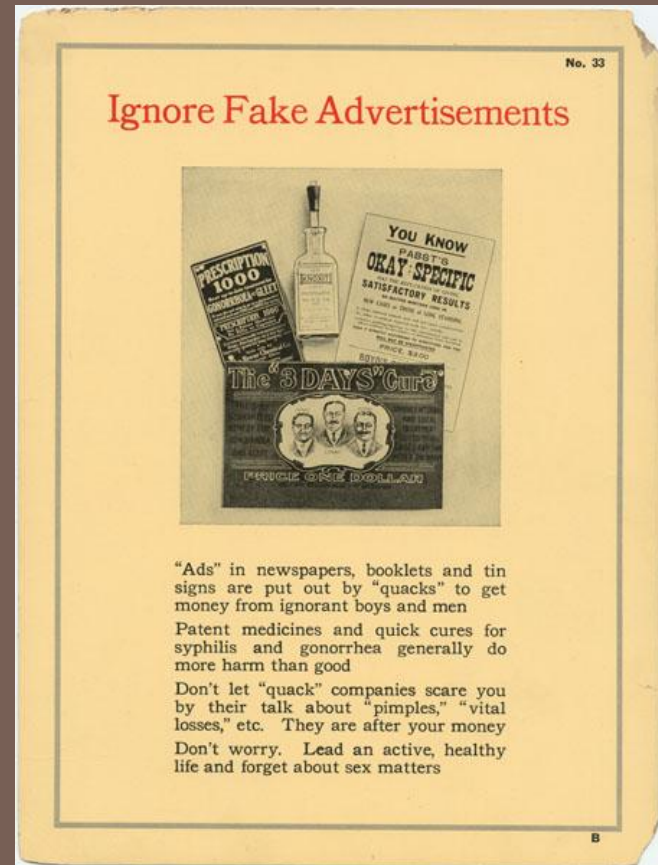
Integration

- Sakamoto, I. (2001)
- Negotiating multiple cultural contexts: flexibility and constraint in the cultural selfways of Japanese academic migrants
- Mixed methods – experimental and qualitative



Application

- Levin, D. (2010)
- Sex Education in Schools: Exploring Youth Perspectives, Implicit Messages, and Unexamined Implications
- Three paper dissertation



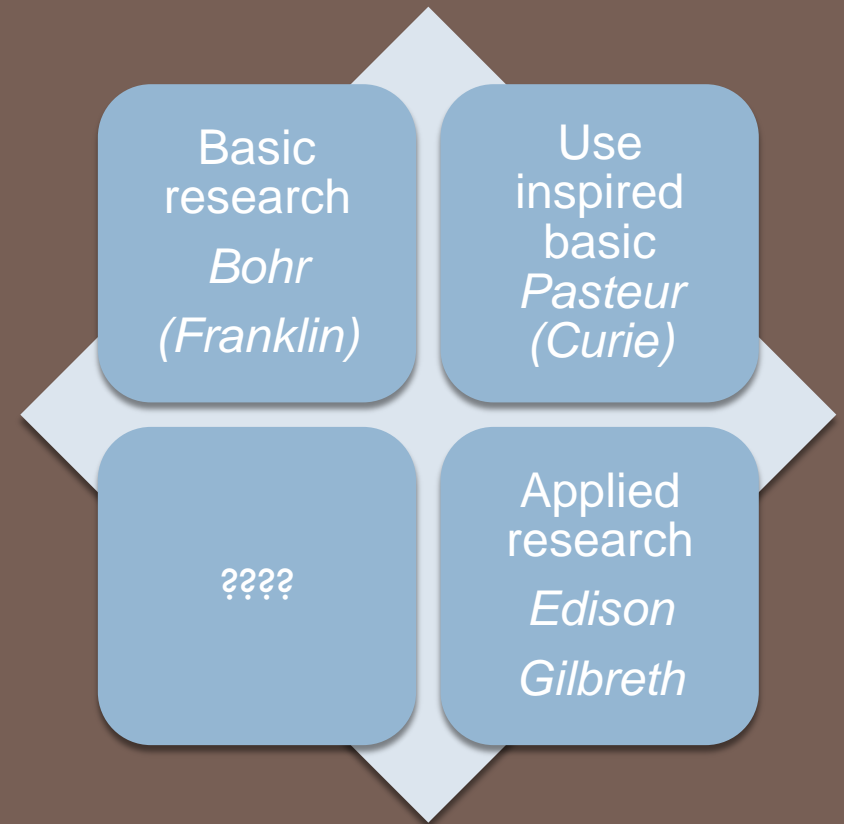
Teaching

- Meier, E. (2010)
- *Video Observations of Student and Facilitator Processes in Intergroup Dialogues*
- Video observation of dialogue groups



Basic? Applied? Research

- Dan Stokes:
 - Pasteur's Quadrant
 - Columns: Focus on usefulness
 - Rows: focus on fundamental understanding



Basic Research: Multicultural Community Organizing

- Participatory Action Research
 - Narratives on community work
 - Collaborative data interpretation
 - Focus groups
 - Community education
 - Identified Perspectives on practice



Applied Research: MOSAIC Youth Theater

- Empowerment evaluation
- Pre- and post-test program evaluation
- Focus groups with participants
- Interviews with parents and staff
- Observations of rehearsals and performances
- Process data -- attendance records, etc.



Use Inspired Basic: The TAKE 5 Project



Reducing the transmission of HIV/AIDS and other STDS among high risk adolescents

Where do you (we) fit in?

Questions? Answers? Comments? Thoughts?

