Co-creating ethical frameworks for community-led approaches to GBV prevention

Critical bioethics in practice

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Extreme settings (Campbell & Mannell, 2016)

Government services limited or absent – or too complex /costly to navigate

Secondary or tertiary violence prevention = too little, too late

Mainstream prevention strategies not appropriate

This requires a shift in mindset:

→ Towards primary prevention
→ From resource shortages to uncovering and mobilizing local resources
→ Developing systems of effective community-led responses
The Gender violence in the Amazon of Peru (GAP) Project
Participatory Action Research

- Researching *with*, not researching *on/about*
- Location of power: equity & justice
- *Process* rather than *outcome*
- Pragmatism
- Co-learning, mutual benefit
- Long-term commitment
- Action oriented:
  - *Knowledge for action* versus *knowledge for understanding*
- Transformation of social reality

Adapted from Costa, Duperoy, Sabella, 1990
Participatory Action Research

• Four stages:
  1. Reflecting
  2. Planning
  3. Acting
  4. Observing

• The GAP Project:
  • Engagement and ethics
  • Reflection
  • Planning
  • Action
  • Observation
Critical Bioethics

• **Positions** study of emergent ethical challenges in local contexts

• **Critically** examines socio-cultural, socio-political and socioeconomic dimensions of ethical issues (Murray & Holmes, 2009)

• **Values** social and cultural context and lived moral experience over idealised, rational thought dominant in traditional philosophical bioethics (Hedgecoe 2004)

Adapted from Hedgecoe, 2004
Methods

- 3 days | 80 leaders | 21 communities
- Community discussion, reflection and deliberation
  - Structured discussions
  - Case scenarios
  - Small group activities
  - Priority setting exercises
- Consensus on ethical standards for project in real time
- Post-hoc thematic analysis of discussion
  - Emergent ethical concerns and community values
  - Comparison against traditional biomedical ethical framework
- Validation of insights with leaders and health workers
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Women sometimes do not report violence or do not have that confidence to talk to their leaders, because that leader tells his neighbour, like this. There are many things in which you have to have a lot of privacy, then there are things that you have to keep as professionals... there are many reasons and that is why the leader must be more cautious with that kind of thing. (Teacher, SA)

The main value is **respect**, it is the most important of the values. The second, **privacy**, the third that I have put, **security** ... security there must be a lot, very important is to find and another, to have trust between people and be supportive of the latter, to be in solidarity with those, be it with adults or with children, good or bad, we always have to help participation, value what they say... (Leader, CU)
First of all for me it is the [value of] **affection**, because having affection before all people, with your friends, with your children mostly, in our house... having that love, **love** for your children, giving them more confidence so that they lose that fear, be affectionate, hug them, kiss them, talk to them. That is my grasp [of ethics], thank you very much. (Promotora, AC)

I believe in a whole family conversation, because without **dialogue** there are sometimes no values [established in] in the house. As parents we must know how to value what our children are, with whom we live and we must know how to value that. (Leader, SS)
Love in the home and in the community: the love of neighbors, their friends, so that no one disrespects each other... More than anything, to gain the trust and respect of the people, because imagine that you have to know how to reach that person, arrive with love. (Promotor, SJF)
Ethical Foundation ➔ GAP Project

1. Broader community engagement
2. Knowledge and dialogue
3. Facilitation of project activities by leaders who had invested in the ethics sessions
4. Guiding principles for participatory planning and action stages of the project
5. Shaping community support pathways for victims
Thank you!
¡Gracias!

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