

Planning an Action Research

Examining Action Research Characteristics, Process, and Components

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Outline

- Definition
- Differences between Action Research and Traditional Research
- Action Research Process
- Components of Action Research

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Research
Solution

rch Solution Action

Solution Action

Problem Research

Problem Research Solution

Problem Research Solution

Problem Research Solution

Problem Research Solution Action
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Definition: Action Research



Systematic process of inquiry: Collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data

Identifying, examining, or generating a practical problem

Generating, implementing, or validating a potential solution

Collecting data about the problem and/or solution

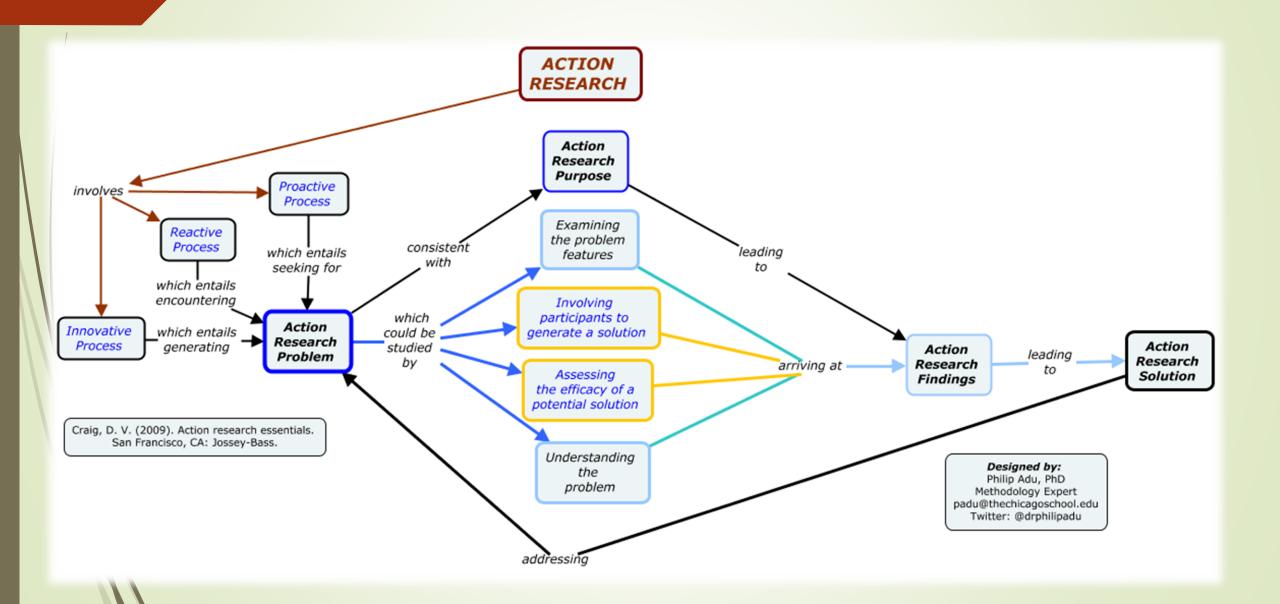
Analyzing the data to arrive at the findings

Creating a resultsdriven solution to address the problem



Differences between Action Research and Traditional Research

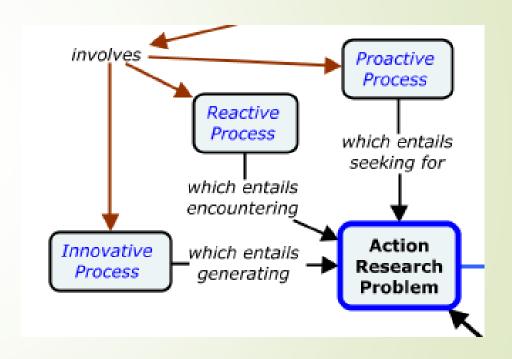
	Characteristics	Action Research	Traditional Research
	Type of problem	Practical problem (directly or indirectly experienced by research practitioner)	Research problem (based on the gap identified in the literature)
	Ultimate goal	Address a practical problem and improve professional practice	<i>Fill a gap</i> in the literature and contribute to the knowledge in a field
	Level of involvement	Participants could be actively involved from the start to the end of the study	Participants are normally involved during the data collection stage



Three Processes

- Reactive process
- Proactive process
- Innovative process

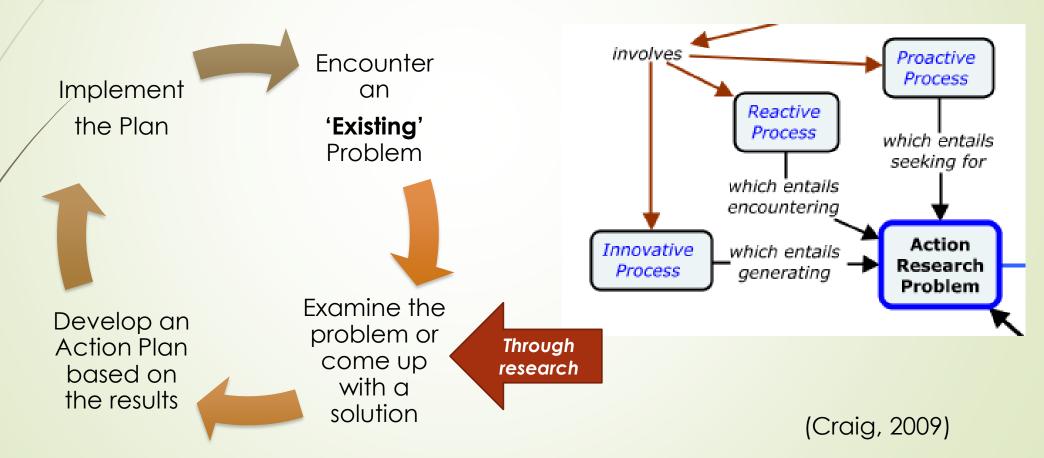




(Craig, 2009)



Reactive Action Research Process

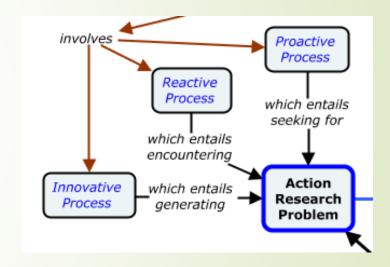


Example: Reactive Action Research Process

Profession: Mental health professional

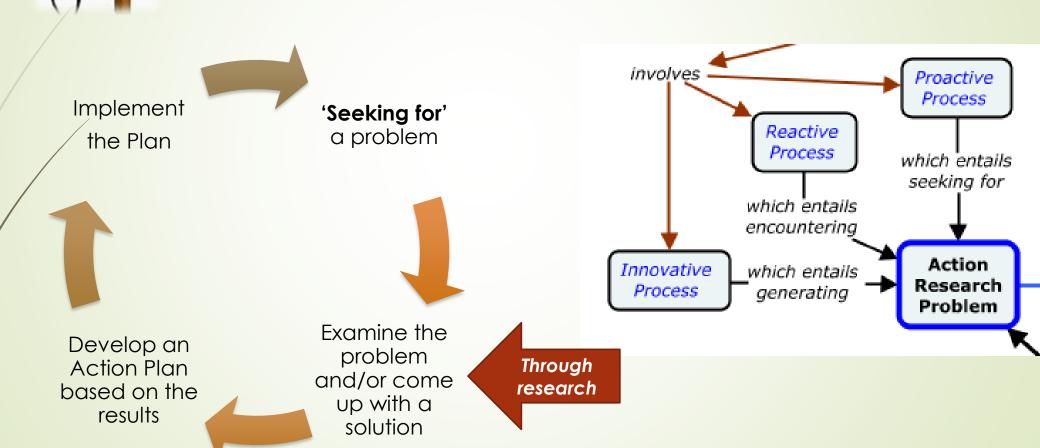
Problem encountered: Small number of patients seek treatment and high drop-out rate during treatment

Question: Why are people with mental health issues not accessing mental health services?





Proactive Action Research Process

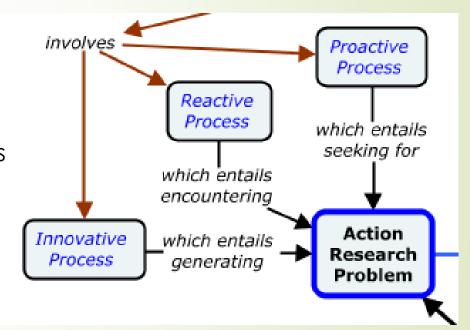


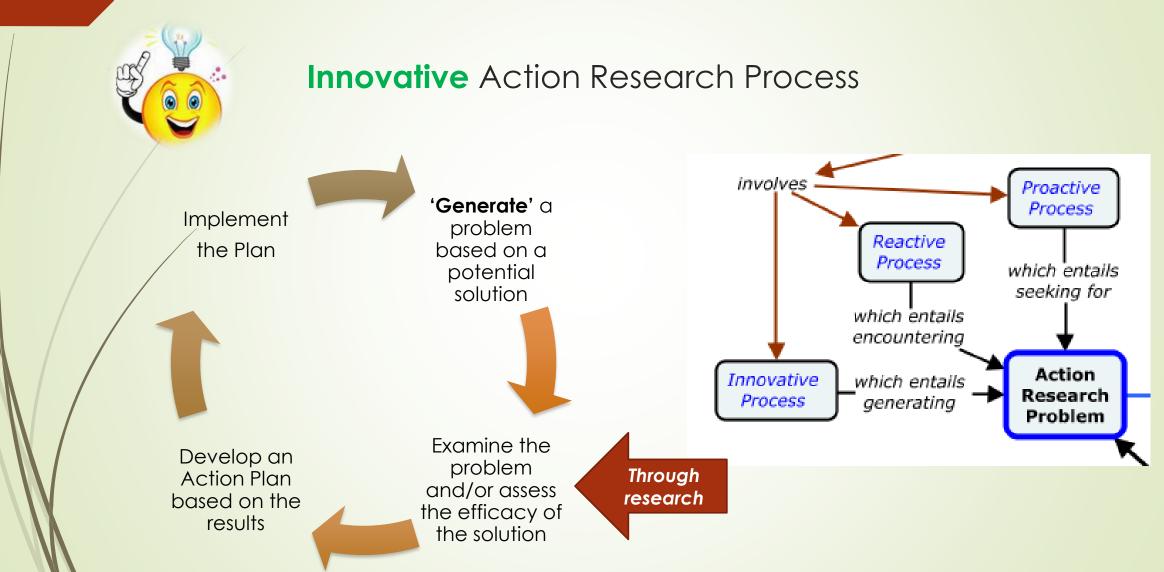
Example: Proactive Action Research Process

Profession: Mental health professional

Seeking for a problem: About mental health services

Question: Which aspects of the services need improvement?





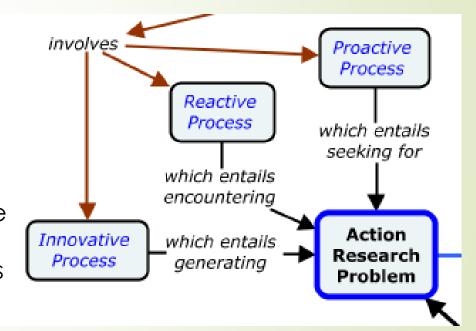
Example: Innovative Action Research Process

Profession: Mental health professional

Utilizing new solution: Expressive or creative arts therapy

Generating a problem: Current therapy is ineffective

Question: How effective is expressive or creative arts therapy in addressing mental health issues?



Components of Action Research



□ Problem

- Practical problem
- Researchable problem

Research

- Purpose statement
- Research question(s)
- Research Method
- Data collection strategy
- Data analysis

□ Solution

- Findings
- Action plan

Action

- Implementation
- Evaluation

Components of Action Research: Problem

Nature of the Problem

- Identified in the natural setting
- Occurs in a specific environment
- Specific and narrow in nature
- Refined based on review of literature
- Refined based on exploration of best practices



Components of Action Research: Problem

From Practical Problem to specific/researchable problem

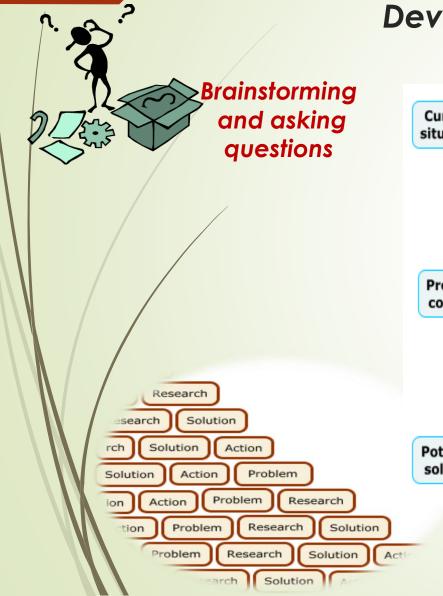


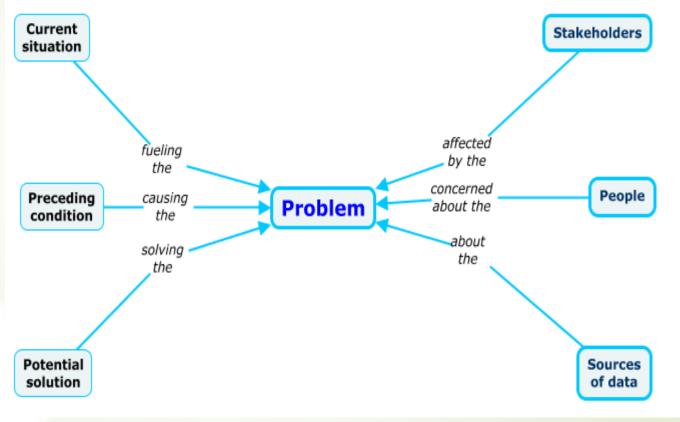
Problem you have encountered, identified, or generated

Researchable problem
(derives from the practical problem) you plan to address in the action research

Components of Action Research: Problem

Developing a Researchable Problem





Source: Kersulo, M. (2012, September 27). Formulating and Action Research Question. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXhOZmFID4c

Components of Action Research: Research

Systematic process of inquiry: Collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data

Purpose Statement

What do you plan to do or find out in the study?

Research Question(s)

What specific question(s) do you plan to address?

Research Method

What specific research method do you plan to use?

Data Collection Strategy

What data collection strategy would you use?

Data Analysis

How do you plan to analyze the data?

Components of Action Research: Solution

Findings

How are the results addressing the research question(s)?

Action Plan

What do you plan to do to address the problem?

Components of Action Research: Action

Implementation

How do you plan to implement the solution/action plan?

Evaluation

How would you assess the solution to determine if it is addressing the action research problem?

Action Research: Conclusion



Problem

Doing research with the ultimate goal of addressing problem of practice

Action

"The ultimate goal of conducting action research is to examine our practices, improve our professional practices, and share our best practices."

~Philip Adu (source: https://twitter.com/drphilipadu/status/715952354923831296)

References

Craig, D. V. (2009). Action research essentials. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

Kersulo, M. (2012, September 27). Formulating and Action Research Question. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXhOZmFID4c

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Books!

- A Step-by-Step Guide to Qualitative Data Coding
- The Theoretical Framework in Phenomenological Research: Development and Application





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