

Good Enough Evidence for Social Good Closing Remarks

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21 Oct 2021

Evaluation isn't Everything

- We have a fetish for evaluation that we need to get over.
 - Evaluatability; right-sizing evaluation
- The first thing you usually care about should be one of the last things you care about.
 - Metrics
- The part of evaluation that you usually don't care about should be one of the most important things you attend to.
 - Values, who gets to define what counts as success, and choosing criteria of evaluation

Research isn't Neutral; Evidence isn't Context-Free

- Research & science adopts a technical language that makes you think it is neutral and impartial, but there are always values at play.
- Power and professional self-interests shape what counts as evidence, who can produce evidence, and how they should go about producing it.

Doing Research; Using Evidence

- Become really good at using evidence before you even consider getting into the business of evidence production.
 - Instead of hiring ‘researchers’, maybe you should be working with ‘knowledge brokers’?
 - Try new models of partnership that is more demand-centric than supply-driven (e.g. embedded research)
- Be open to diverse vantage points on what counts as evidence; and diverse approaches to generating evidence.
 - Co-produce research where possible, try arts-based approaches to see what unique value they bring.
- If you want to do research, consider investing in ‘Solutioning’
 - Instead of ever more rigorous evaluations of the same tired interventions, focus on creating new solutions and innovations that make evaluations worthwhile in the first place.

Thank You

See you next year