

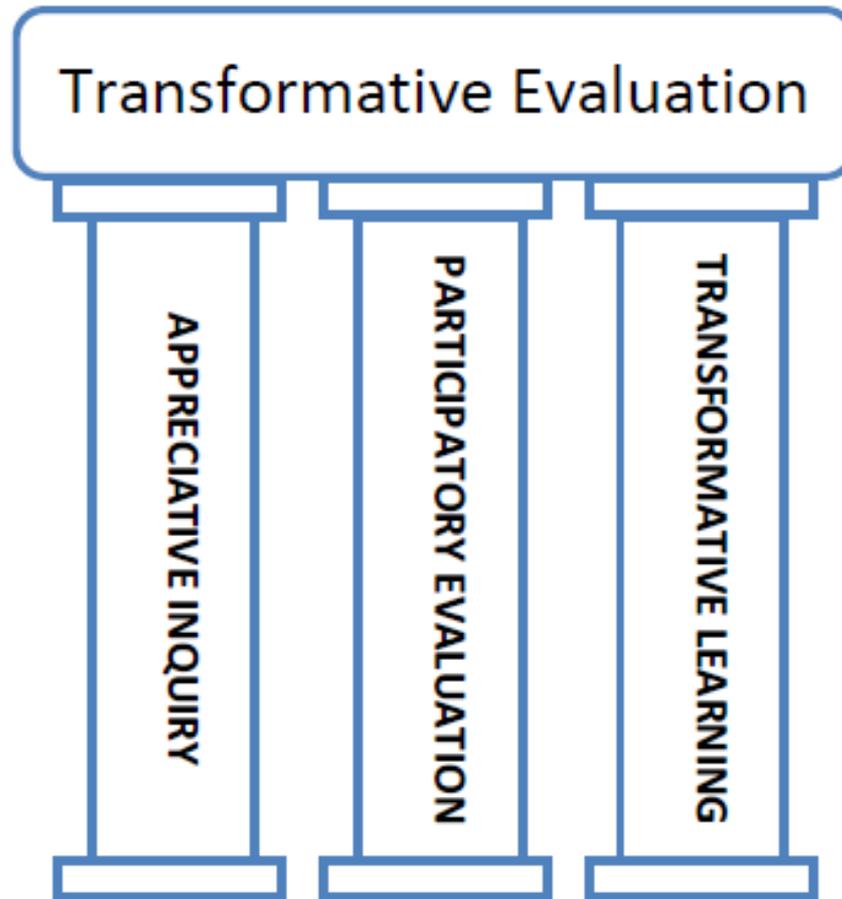


Transformative Evaluation

Dr Susan Cooper



Theoretical foundations



- Facilitating reflective dialogue between young people and youth workers

- Facilitating reflective dialogue between youth workers

Story generation

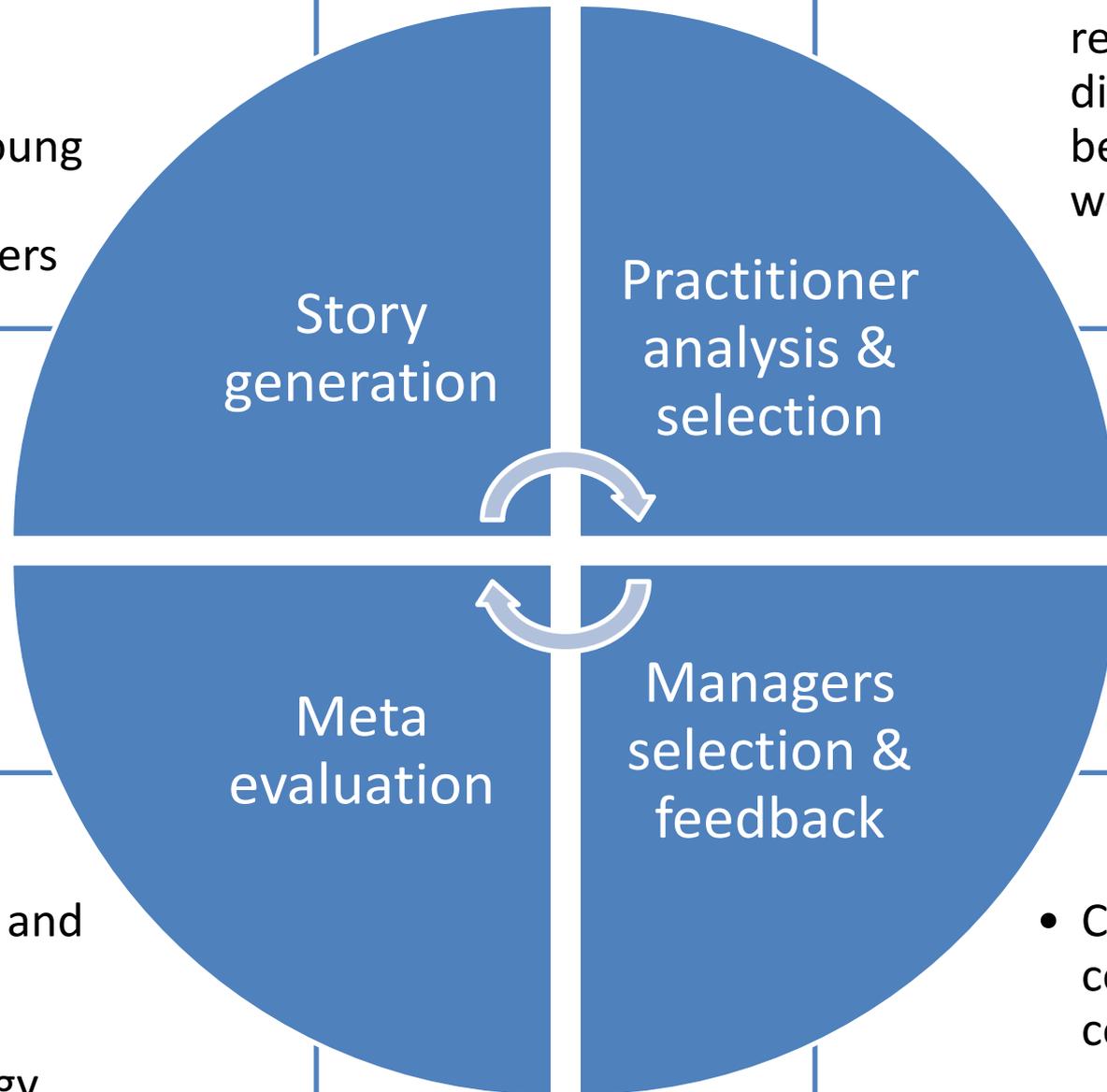
Practitioner analysis & selection

Meta evaluation

Managers selection & feedback

- Developing and fine tuning evaluation methodology

- Creating a communication conduit



Alice's Story

Alice says (verbatim)

"Since I've been coming to Youth Club, I have been more confident, and I have been making lots more friends which I wouldn't normally do because of my confidence. An example of me gaining confidence is with the Talent Show we had in May. At first I didn't want to do it and I was really quiet, but then my voice got louder and I ended up coming 2nd place!! It was really fun and I am really proud. And also whenever I have a problem outside or inside of Youth Club, I can always talk to a member of staff and they always give me great advice."

The Youth Worker says

Alice was incredibly shy and quiet when she first started youth club. She would hide behind her friends, almost to the point of invisibility and never let her voice be heard. Alice joined the YMT at our youth club and has gradually found her voice and will now let it be heard.

Alice took part in a music project we ran in 2013 and although she was an active member, she was still incredibly introverted and tried to place herself behind many of her 15 peers so as not to be in the lime light. During the Talent show this year, she sang as part of a duet and with regular rehearsals, really came into her own. So much so, that they won 2nd place (as voted by the public) out of 11 acts.

She is a regular youth club attendee and the increase in her confidence is indisputable. Alice, although not a regular seeker of attention, has demonstrated that she feels comfortable enough with the staff team to discuss any issues she has.

The Youth Workers group's reason for selection as the most significant in the domain

The Youth Workers Group selected this story because it demonstrates the ability of youth workers to "look into the crowd" to notice that Alice had great potential. The relationship with Alice required a determined approach, getting to know her slowly by making the effort to have regular conversation. This enabled the youth workers to build a solid relationship over time, evidenced by the fact that eventually she began to make the effort to initiate conversation. In 2013, Alice was encouraged and supported to participate in rehearsals and the event her participation was peripheral. Supporting and encouraging her over the subsequent 2 years enabled Alice to full participate in the 2015 event.

The Stakeholder group's reason for selection as the most significant story overall

The Stakeholder Group selected this story because they felt that if Alice had not had any interaction she would have shied away from any opportunities in her life. Her story also shows the ability of the youth workers to reach into the crowd and see when people need help. The youth workers have found the key, her love for music, to unlock her potential. This had encouraged her to go on to greater things in her life, not only with her family and friends but with people around her. Alice has gone from being totally invisible to singing on the stage in a competition and coming second place. Alice did this in front of peers, the youth workers and total strangers. The group felt this would have a ripple effect where she can help others who may be in the same situation. The group felt that Alice had made the most significant change.

Stage 1: Story Generation Stage

- ‘telling their own story’ and ‘recognising own learning’ requires facilitation
- The process of facilitation enhances relationships, supports young peoples’ reflection and identification of learning

Enhancing practice ‘in the moment’

“because you’re asking them questions which are kind of difficult rather than just offhand comments about things, you create a bit more of a relationship” (George)

“... the process of generating the story is a journey in itself ...” (Claire)

Stage 2: Analysis and Selection Stage

- Process of analysing and selecting stories “far more complex” than anticipated

“discussing why a story should go through and why it shouldn’t and finding out what everyone thought, either individually or as a group as to what is distance travelled and what is an achievement for a young person and working out who has come the furthest and who has achieved the most ...” (Emma)

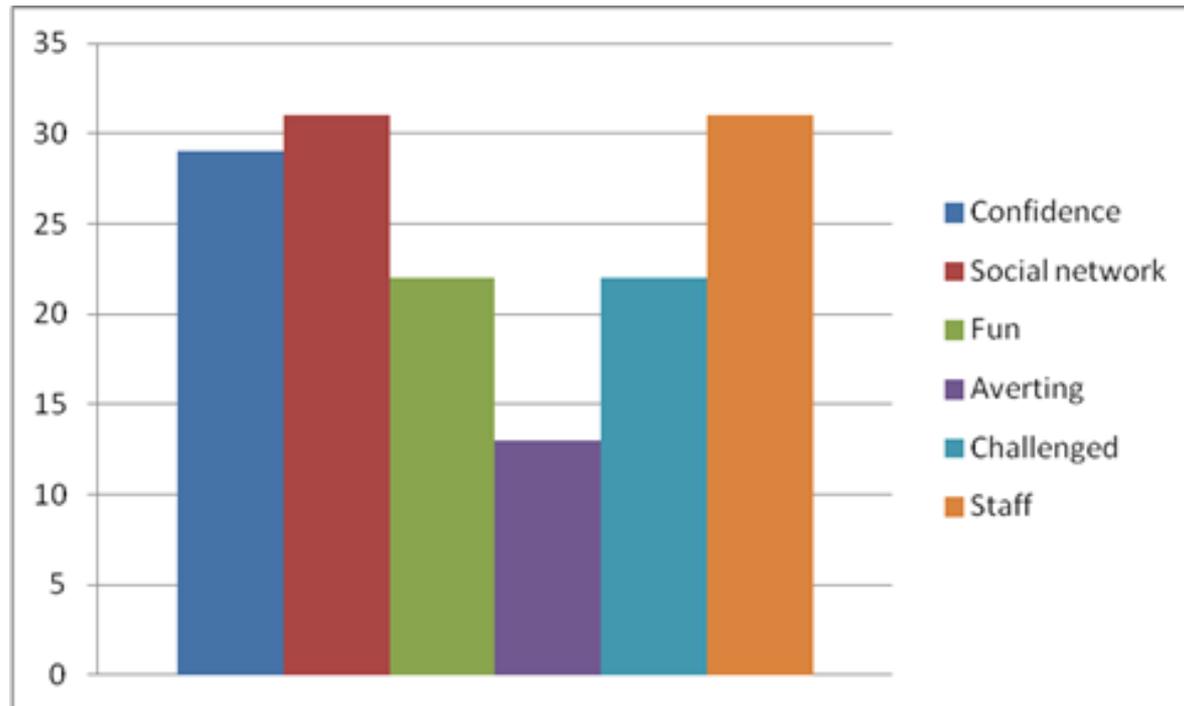
ACTIVITY

Enabling critical reflection

- Moving from the immediate to a broader view of practice – from ‘problem-solving’ to critical questions about aims and values (Ng and Tan 2009)
- Collective dialogue can illuminating assumptions (Allard *et al.* 2007)

Using the data

Number of stories



Themes emerging from young people's narratives

Supporting ToC

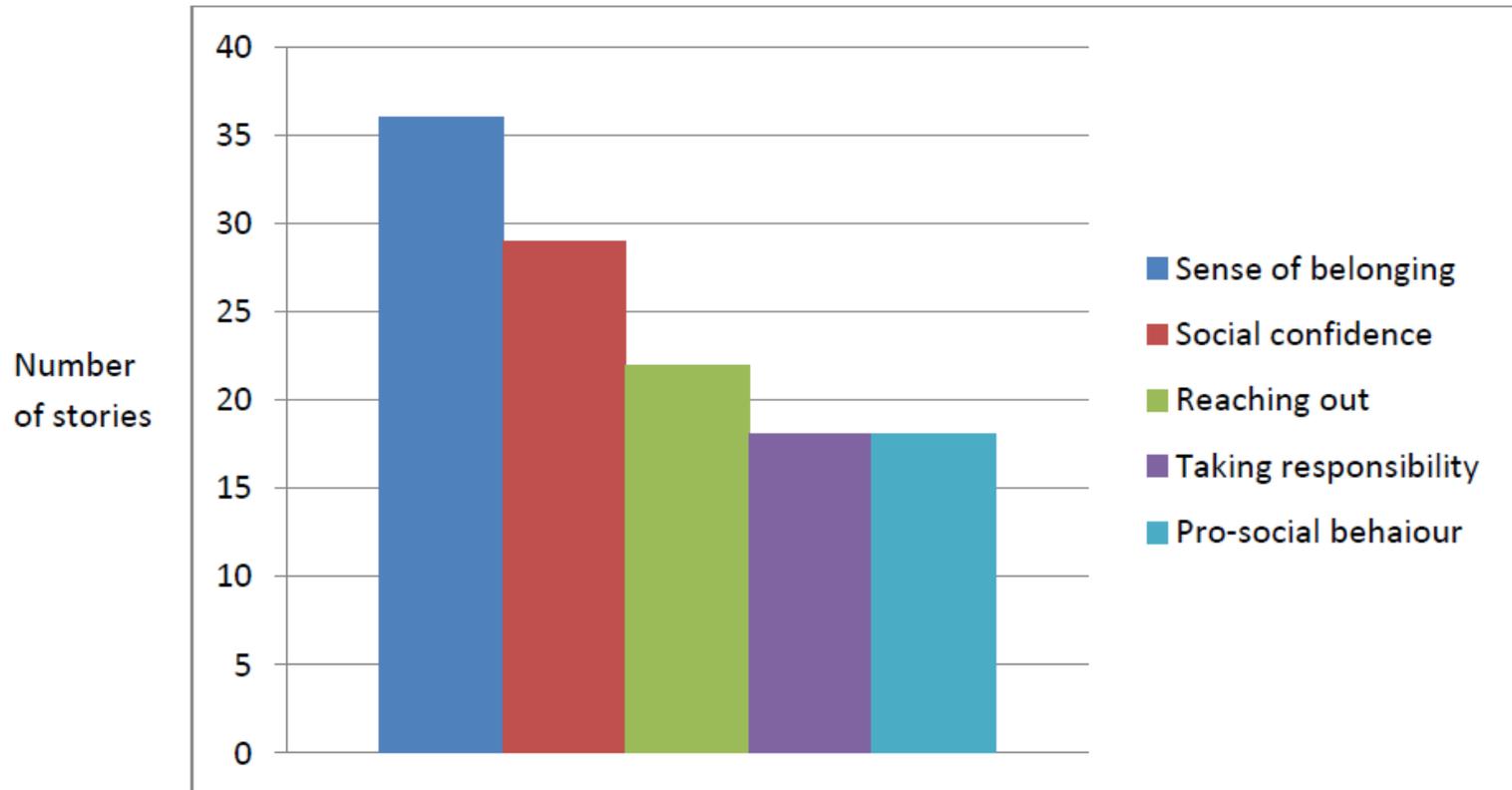


Chart 4: Themes emerging from youth workers' narratives

Theme	Story teller's age = 9 -12	Story teller's age = 13-18
Overall population (n=57)	40%	60%
Sense of belonging	47%	53%
Social confidence	38%	62%
Reaching out	14%	86%
Taking responsibility	28%	72%
Pro-social behaviour	22%	78%

Table 2: Themes across age range

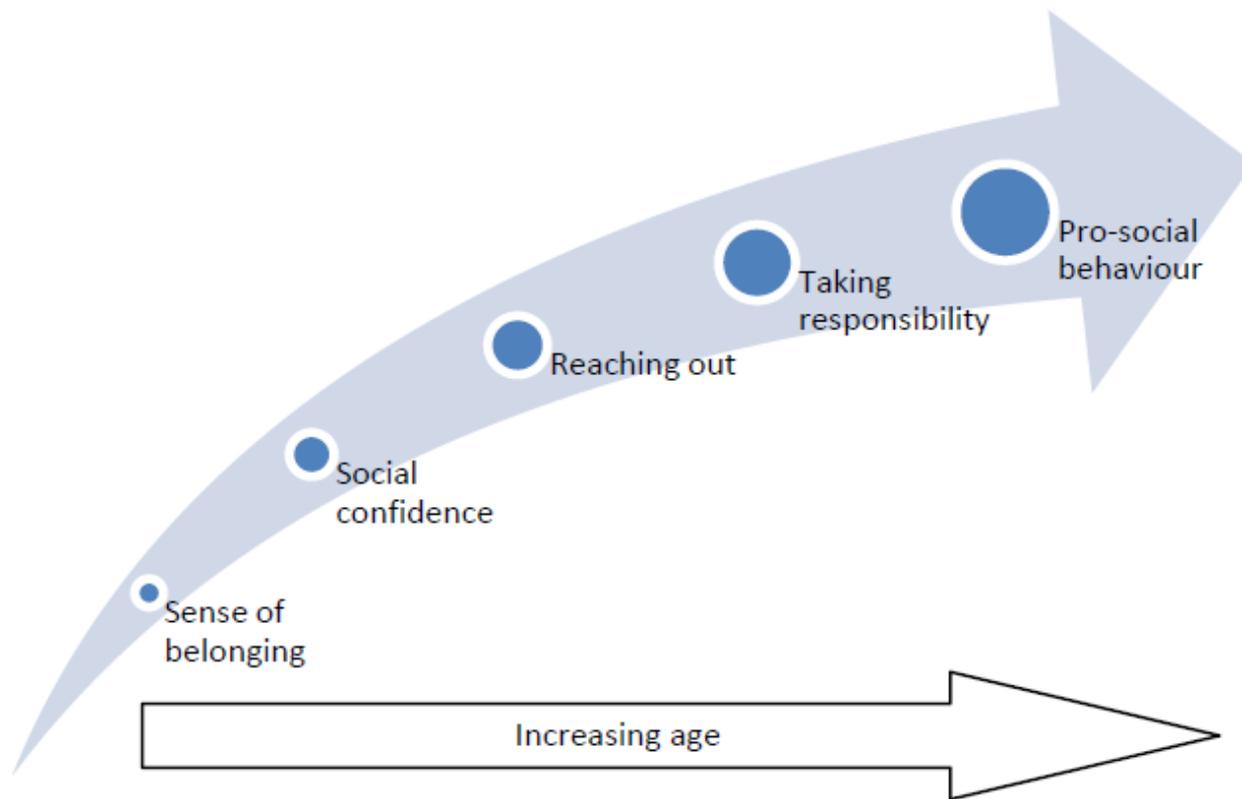


Figure 2: Outcomes Pathway

Erasmus project

TE to be used in 5 countries to develop and communicate the impact of youth work

- 1000 stories will be generated
- In-country analysis & European perspective
- International Conference at Marjons in September 2018
- Open access Web-based TE training resources available
- Open access E-book on the impact of youth work across Europe



Transformative Youth Work International Conference : Developing and Communicating Impact, 4-6 September 2018

The University of St Mark & St John are pleased to announce the hosting of an International Conference on the Impact of Youth Work, from 4-6 September 2018, in association with our partner universities in Estonia, Finland, France and Italy. The conference, supported by Erasmus +, will bring together a range of experts from across Europe and the wider world, to showcase the latest research

the historical naval port of Plymouth. The university has pioneered research in youth work and the training of youth workers for nearly 30 years and is proud to host this event.

This will be the 1st major International conference to specifically address the issue of outcomes and the impact of youth work. The purpose of the conference will be to both promote the Impact of

<https://www.marjon.ac.uk/courses/our-faculties/faculty-of-education--social-sciences/departments/departments-of-social-sciences/transformative-youth-work-2018--developing-and-communicating-impact/>

Comments & Questions

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