

'Paradigms' of Research

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Presentation aims to:

- Clarify paradigm meanings and understandings
- Trace the paradigm debate
- Trouble what comes next?

Clarifying paradigm meanings and understandings

What is:

a paradigm?

a methodology?

a method?

Some possible paradigms:

- Positivism
- Naturalism
- Marxism
- Neo-Marxism
- Existentialism
- Feminism
- Pragmatism
- Post foundationalism
- Post structuralism
- Post colonialism
- Post modernism
- New ageism

Some possible methodologies

- Experimental
- Quasi experimental
- Action Research
- Case Study
- Surveys
- Ethnography
- Phenomenology
- Ethnology
- Biography etc

Possible Methods

- Observation
- Interviews
- Focus groups
- Questionnaires
- Surveys
 - Structured
 - Time lapsed
 - Frequencies etc
- Diaries
- Scales & Tests
- Documentation
- Video and audio recording, etc

Tracing the paradigm debate

- The dominance of positivism
- The questioning of positivism
- The paradigm wars
- The proliferation of alternative paradigms
- The current paradigm dilemmas

Paradigm dilemmas

- Separate camps in the same field
- Complementary approaches
- Marriage
- Deconstruction and reconstruction

Troubling what comes next

Hegemony and subversion continues and hostility in the ECE research community continues

OR

Open, critical engagement develops between paradigm camps. Respect, congruence, innovation, democracy flourishes and the ECE research community is strengthened

Conditions for paradigm progress

- Finding common ground
- Locating arenas for engagement
- Becoming more intelligible and accessible
- Choosing relevant subjects to work together on

The role of EECERA

- A forum for deliberation not mere debate
- An ethical association, open, inclusive and safe learning community which aspires to be developmental
- Based on mutual respect, shared curiosity and humanity

