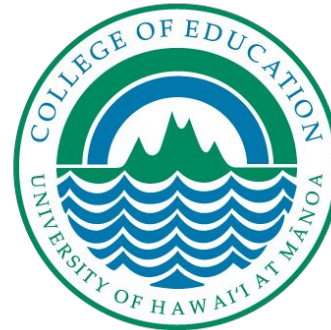



Caring for Data in Hawai'i Symposium



Decolonizing Research & Data Through Feminist Methodologies & Theories



Patricia Grillet
PhD student
College of Education
University of Hawaii



Are our research
questions inclusive
enough?

Will our research make contribution in the struggle against

“the violence of poverty for the non-white [populations] the violence of land dispossession, the violence of disruption of peoples and communities, of ignoring, deauthorizing, destroying the peoples' knowledges...” (Espinosa-Miñoso, Lugones & Maldonado-Torres, 2022).

Feminism

Decolonize data even before we gather it:

- **Opening up** the questions that we think are important.
- Putting the **lens on issues that have been found irrelevant:** ignored as valuable knowledge, populations, traditionally neglected by scientific research.
- Creative ways to collect data and to analyze it.
- **Reduce or eliminate unequal power relations:** among researchers and participants
- Construct **fairer relationships**, create **better life experiences for all**, fostering **collaboration, honesty and opportunities**

(Dána-Ain Davis & Christa Craven, 2023)

What is “knowledge and how do we find it/construct it?”

The data collection methods employed by feminist scholars are not new, they are just used in an innovative way that puts attention on the details that reveal daily unfairness and unveils strategies developed to cope with social issues, as has assigned roles, poverty, segregation, etc.

A myriad of contextualized research methods in **feminist methodology**:

- **Observations**
- **Interactions**
- **Interviews**
- **Ethnographic approach (Dána-Ain Davis & Christa Craven, 2023)**
- **Insider perspective (Creswell & Poth, 2018).**
- **Feminist discourse analysis**

The purpose of combining these methods is to create a research methodology that draws from different perspectives to construct a map of the situation, contrasting the experiences of participants with the official and media discourses. Such a map aims to be an inclusive academic source of information that includes the empowered and disempowered .

Insider

- **Construct meaningful relationships with participants (Dána-Ain Davis & Christa Craven, 2023).**
- **Trust:** access to the **details of daily life, everyday battles, naturalized unequal relations of power and microaggressions**

Interviews

- **Synchronous/Asynchronous interactions:** in-person meetings, phone calls or video calls at **a time and place chosen by the participant.**
- Oral/written **narratives**
- **Follow-up questions:** to obtain a deeper sense of each experience.
- **Special attention to:** **language, to what is said with words and body, also to what is omitted.**
- Goal is to construct **listening space** to **freely express**
- **Collaborative and sympathetic relationship (De Vault, 1999).**

Horizontal relationship researcher-participant

- **If the participants allow it: record, transcribe, analyze:** emerging codes and categories later used in the process of constructing meaning with words Saldaña, J. (2016).
- **Share Drafts of the results: validate the information, inferences, representations of them and preliminary results and conclusions, so that the participants can take part in how the project's results are portraying them, as a way to balance the power relationships among us.** (Linabary & Hamel, 2017).

Discourse Analysis

...understand underlying meanings...

Characteristics:

- **Overthrow assumptions of the patriarchal society: individualism, competition, heterosexims, etc.**
- **Intersectional:** looking at forms of oppression that go **beyond gender**
- **Connect individual realities to a broader context**
- **Discourse:**

any of the social and cultural **meaning-making apparatuses** that authorize and repress cultural memories, dictate “commonsense” (but actually social and cultural) arrangements of time and space, shape cultural and **social institutions and practices, and influence material policies of governance** that distribute resources and grant or limit power.

Discourse Analysis

...understand underlying meanings...

Practical principles:

- **Feminist discourse analysis is not neutral as it aims for a social change.**
- **It recognizes that the gender ideology is hegemonic and perpetuated by institutions.**
- **It “examine[s] how power and dominance are discursively produced and/or (counter-)resisted in a variety of ways through textual representations of gendered social practices, and through interactional strategies of talk**
- **It analyzes a wide range of nuances including “choices in lexis, clauses/sentences/utterances, conversational turns, structures of argument and genre, and interactions among discourses”**
- **It encourages self-reflexivity.**

Lazar, M. M. (2007).

The information gathered through the various data collection techniques will not only help to analyze the experiences but it will also generate situated knowledge about agency and coping strategies.

- **Situated Knowledge:** learn from our everyday battles, listen to each others' experiences, care for the most vulnerable, learn from the marginalized populations, and embody education / research (Batallones Femeninos, 2018; RETOS, 2018; Masamha, 2018).
- **Collaboration:** put aside colonizing attitudes, including indigenous perspectives and practices (Naepi, 2018), with reciprocity and a horizontal distribution of responsibilities, constantly questioning our positions in relation to others', raising political consciousness (Auerbach, 2018; Fernández & Gill, 2018; Varadharajan, 2018).
- **Mind Freedom:** think of research and data as a space for liberation and self-understanding rather than a way to comply with imposed standards, a platform that encourages reflection on the social reproduction dynamics related to patriarchy and colonization which keep dividing us (Bourdieu and Passeron, 1977; Motta, 2018; Xaba, 2018; Shilliam, 2018).

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Gracias

