

# Bring Creativity and All the Voices into Research and Evaluation



Elizabeth Lynch MBE

1. PURPOSE

2. STORY

2. DESIGN

3. METHOD

5. KNOWLEDGE

*"Be a part of  
the change you want  
to see"*



# Why evaluate?



to:

- learn
- discover
- record
- reflect
- validate
- improve
- advocate -
- communicate
- account for
- something else?



take into account



leave space to acknowledge failure!

# 1. Purpose

What is the specific purpose of the evaluation? (This may be about a specific aspect of your project, rather than the over-arching purpose of the project)



# 2. Story

*What happened?*



What is the story you want and need to tell about your project?

What did it mean to the people involved?

What is the change or shift you want to capture and share?

What did others think about it?

What could you or other stakeholders in the process do better/differently?

What aspects of your work or group experience should be shared?

# 3. Design

ASK YOURSELVES:

Who designs the evaluation plan?  
How does it evidence the story of change  
that you want to tell?

What do  
you want  
or need to  
evidence?

Whose voices  
need to be  
represented?

participants  
creative team  
audiences  
stakeholders  
specific communities



What  
resources  
do we  
have?

people  
money  
space  
time  
equipment  
software

## Co-design & representation

Language(s) and tone, open,  
closed and leading questions..

Evaluate from  
the get-go!  
The Co-design  
process with  
stakeholders  
is data!

# What can you evaluate?

1. Captivation
2. Knowledge and Awareness
3. Behaviour and attitude
4. Emotional and spiritual resonance
5. Aesthetic growth
6. Change in professional practice
7. Impact on others - influence, funding, copying
8. Impact on local or national policy



**What do people think, feel, know and do as a result of your activity?**

**and who are the people?  
This is where monitoring comes in**

## 4. METHODS/1

# a. Quantitative

How?



data which enables you to measure numbers/percentages/statistics



# 4. METHODS/2



# Quantitative

data which enables you to measure numbers/percentages/statistics

Monitoring data: Attendance/demographics/ticket sales etc.

Ticketing, enrolment forms, surveys, observation and logging of numbers (e.g. unticketed workshop)

Demographic information on participants: Surveys, enrolment forms, observation data

Project documentation (grant applications/budgets/planning milestones, minutes etc.) Log, quantify, analyse

Programme: Number, type and duration of activities -Log, categorise

Budget :Analysis of cost per head or Social Return on Investment SROI

Website activity, social media - Log, categorise, analyse

Press and media coverage: articles, broadcast, etc. Log, categorise, analyse



**But only count  
what you  
need to count!**



# 4. METHODS/3

What would be a credible and achievable sample size?

IMPACT: Capture baseline data so that you can capture what has changed at the end of the project

Classify your qualitative data

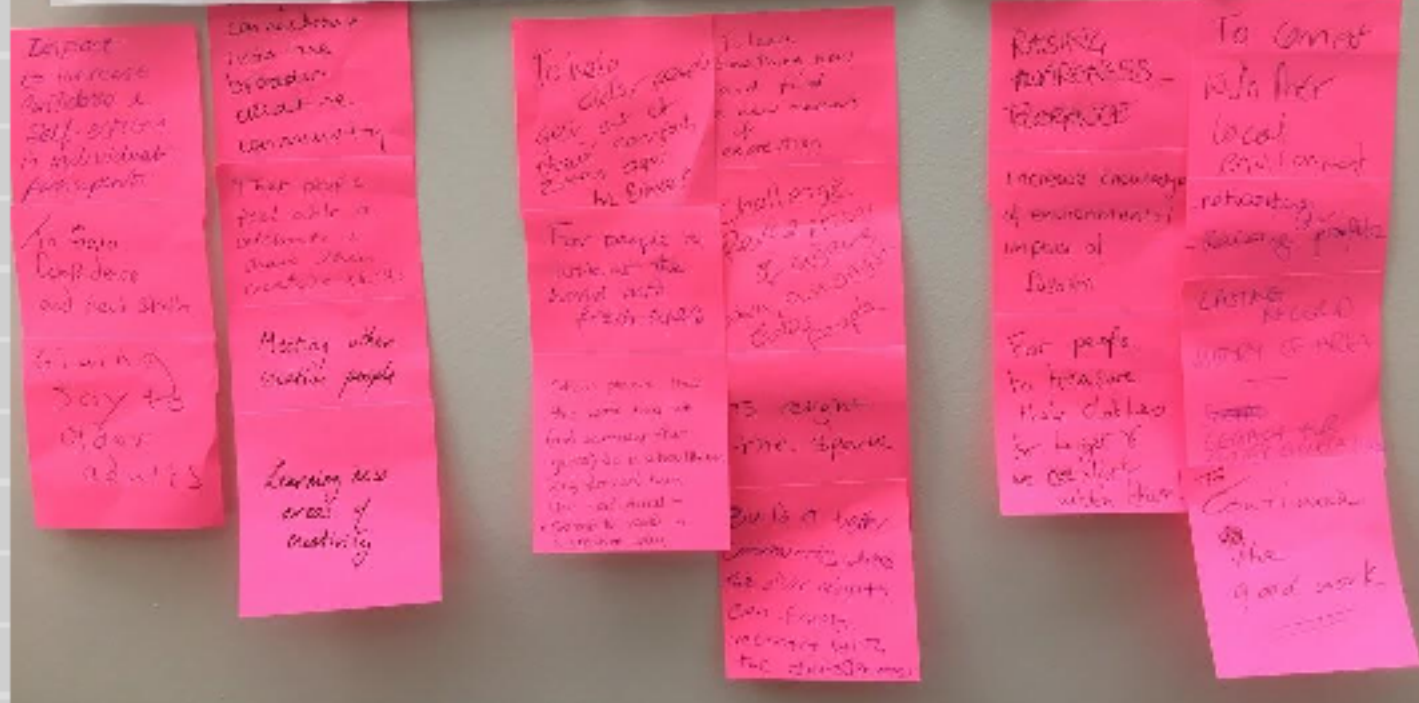
Acknowledgement, confidentiality, anonymity, trust

## b. Qualitative

evidence of people's thoughts, opinions, ideas, feelings

- Interviews
- facilitated workshops
- observation
- vox-pops
- grafitti walls and blackboards
- games
- questionnaires, postcards
- letters
- Documentation: photographs, films, artworks, journals, podcasts, diaries, social media, logged quotations and individual reports.

2. If your activity for Age Against the Machine could have one impact, what would that be?



# 5. Knowledge



Involve all the voices in sharing the knowledge

Evaluation creates knowledge

Sharing  
what you have learned:  
film  
report  
exhibition  
roundtables,  
seminars, webinars  
discussions



Kinsey scale

Sexology Season 2015

0

1

2

3

4

5

6

This activity generated quantitative and qualitative data



## Evaluation Planning checklist:

1. Clear aims and objectives for your project
2. Clear aims and objectives for evaluation
3. Project planning schedule that includes evaluation
4. Allocate budget and capacity/resources/equipment
5. Awareness of the context and landscape for your project
6. Clarity around limitations/assumptions/subjectivity
7. Focus of the evaluation and asking the right questions
8. Ensure credible sample size and range
9. Systems in place to collect and store data
10. Methodology that builds in checks and balances
11. Opportunities to review and reflect on evaluation feed back during project
12. Assemble findings
13. Analysis and interpretation
14. Observations, conclusions, recommendations, questions
15. Sharing and dissemination – print/online/events
16. Ending the project with participants and stakeholders

A neon sign with the words "THANK YOU" in red, glowing letters. The sign is mounted on a dark, possibly black, background. The letters are arranged in two lines: "THANK" on the top line and "YOU" on the bottom line. The neon tubes are bright red and have a slightly irregular, handcrafted appearance. The sign is centered horizontally in the image.

THANK  
YOU

