

The background of the slide is a composite image. On the left, a large, curved portion of the Earth is visible, showing blue oceans, white clouds, and some brownish landmasses. The right side of the image shows the dark, star-filled expanse of space. In the upper right corner, a full moon is visible, showing its characteristic craters and maria. The overall color palette is dominated by deep blues, blacks, and the natural colors of the Earth and Moon.

QUALITATIVE SCHOLARSHIP: THE HOWS AND WHYS

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KNOWING

- Napoleon Dynamite – wisdom?
- Ontology – the nature of being, what is knowable
- Epistemology – justified belief vs opinion, how you know



EVERY JOURNEY HAS A STORY

Quantitative only, thank you!

Working on Situational Awareness

Most theory from aviation

Not a good fit?

Find theory related

None? Develop it.

“You’ll never graduate”!



PHILOSOPHICAL UNDERPINNINGS

- John Dewey *The Quest for Certainty, Logic, the Theory of Inquiry* – Pragmatism and Process
- William James (and his squirrel) – *Pragmatism*
- Herbert Blumer – *Symbolic Interactionism*
- Maurice Merlot-Ponty , Martin Heidegger, Edmund Husserl- Phenomenology
 - The contradiction of the philosophy of science and the account of space, time and the world as people experience it.

THE VIEW

CORBIN & STRAUSS, 2008, 2015)

- Ok to have expertise and preference
- However, methodology should not be force fit
- Quant and Qual answer different questions (Mixed Methods?)
- Key! - What is the research question?

WHEN IS QUALITATIVE SCHOLARSHIP USEFUL FOR INQUIRY

When little is known about a topic

When “how” or “why” questions require answers

When there is a process orientation to the inquiry



METHODOLOGICAL COMPARISONS

Quantitative

- Answers “when and how much” (and why quantitatively, but less descriptively)
- Is helpful for theoretical testing
- Usually deductive
- Is necessary for cause/effect gold standard RCT
- Variables controlled for (remove context)
- Researcher input in design phase primarily

Qualitative

- Answers “how” and “why” best and with potentially more detail
- Is process oriented
- Useful when there is no theory, or where little is known
- May be inductive or abductive
- All variables captured to the extent possible (context matters!!)
- Researcher is instrument (theoretical sensitivity, sampling)

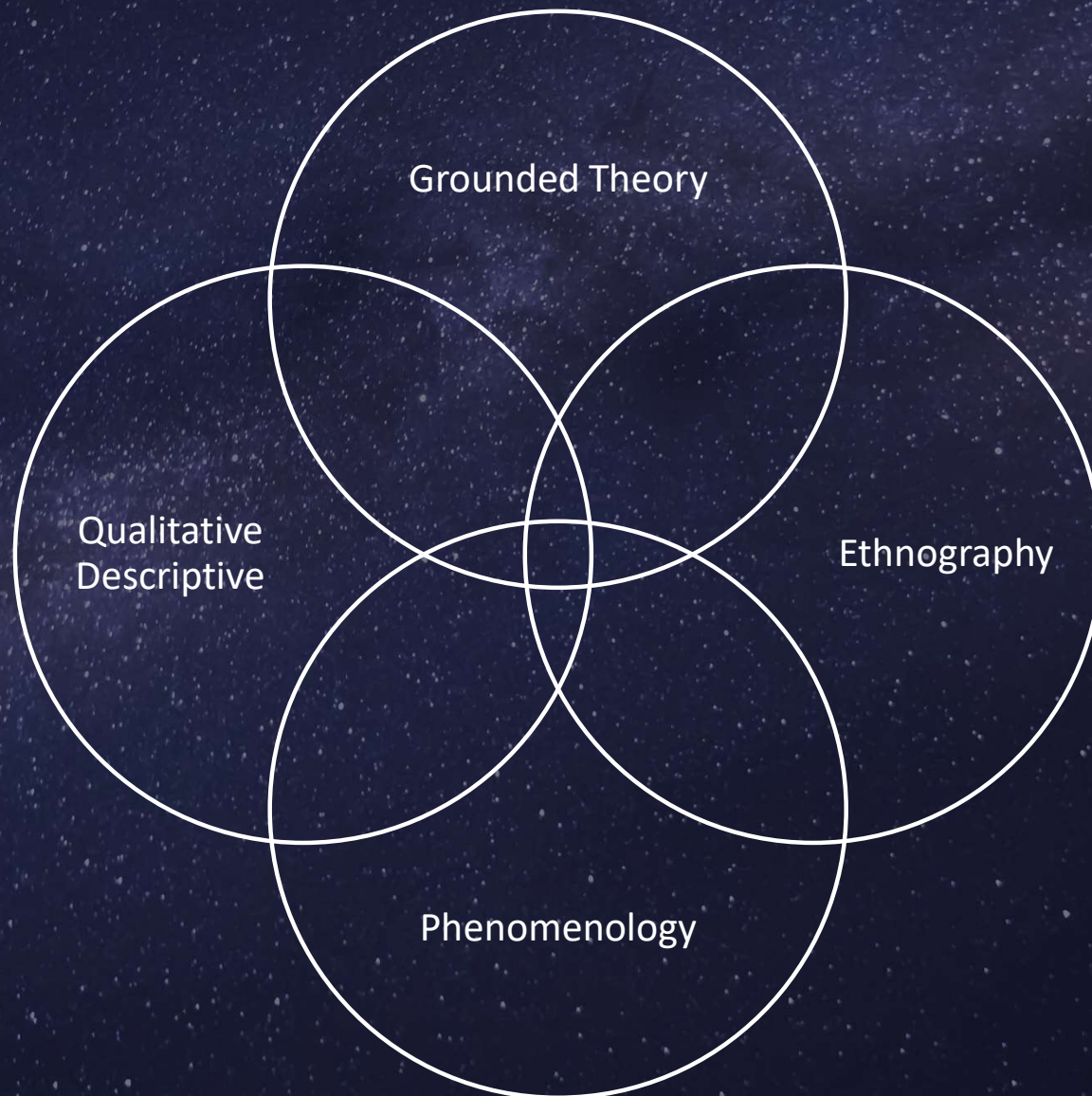
BOTH?!

- Mixed Methods is a great way to capture more detail!
 - Three Primary Ways (Creswell 2003; Creswell & Creswell 2018)
 - Convergent - Single Phase, merging results
 - Explanatory Sequence – collect and analyze quant., collect and analyze use qual to help explain quant. results
 - Exploratory Sequence - collect and analyze qual. data, use data to develop new measurement, how test improves results or ability to measure

QUALITATIVE ASSUMPTIONS

- Participants have something important to say, and it can be captured and described, if not measured
- "Context" matters. But, it is a blessing and a curse!
- Few findings stand forever – "proof" doesn't exist, and "support" can be fleeting.
- T(t)ruth - "for the time being this is what we know – but eventually it may be judged partly or even wholly wrong" (Corbin and Strauss, pg. 4, 2008)

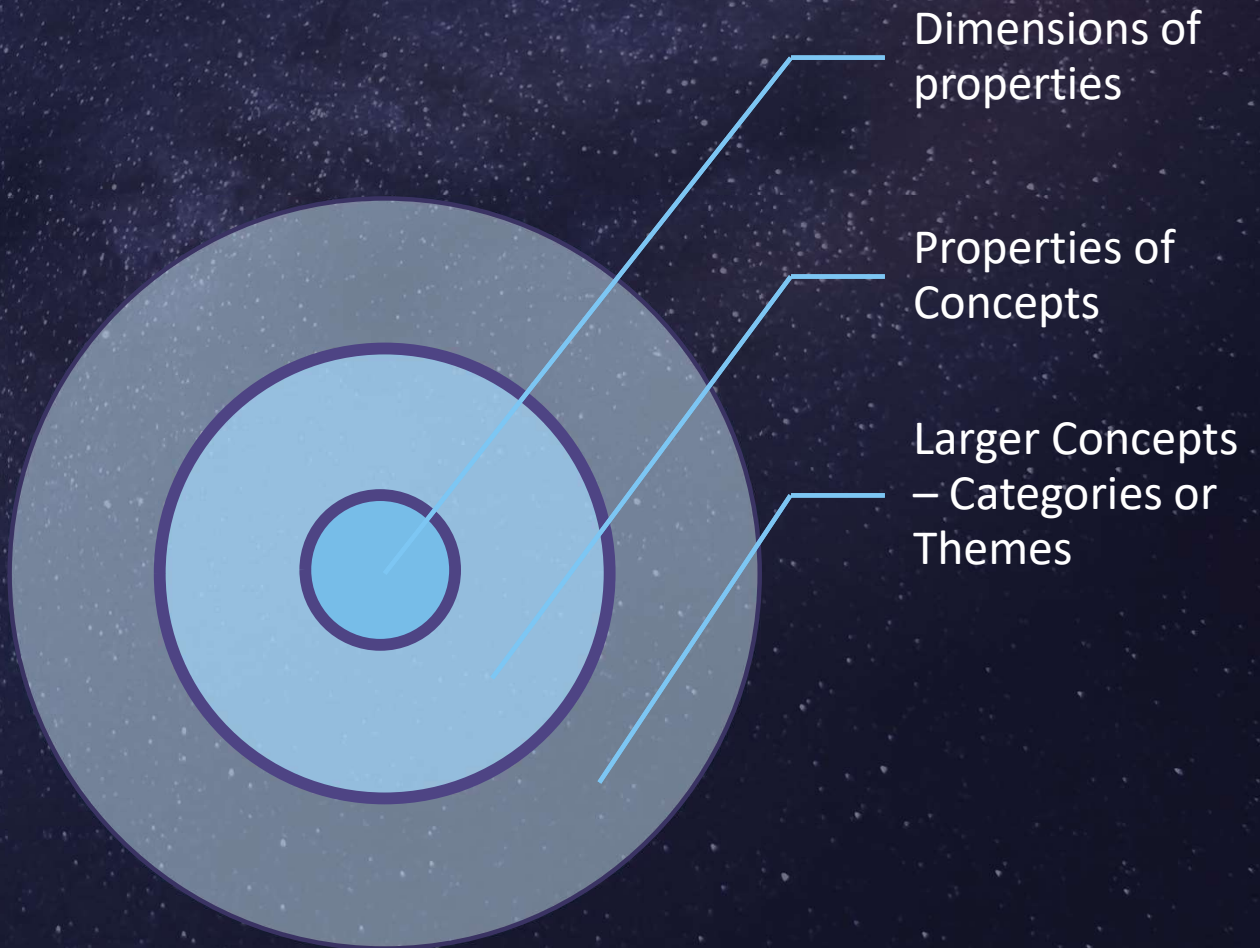
QUALITATIVE IS THE ANSWER? AVAILABLE WITHIN THE TRADITION



MECHANICS

Coding: Naming of narrative piece/Assigning meaning

- Open Coding
- Line by Line
- Incident to Incident
- Focused Coding
(Charmaz, 2006, 2014)
- Axial Coding



DISPLAYING EMERGING MEANING

Higher Level Concept –
Category or Theme

Property

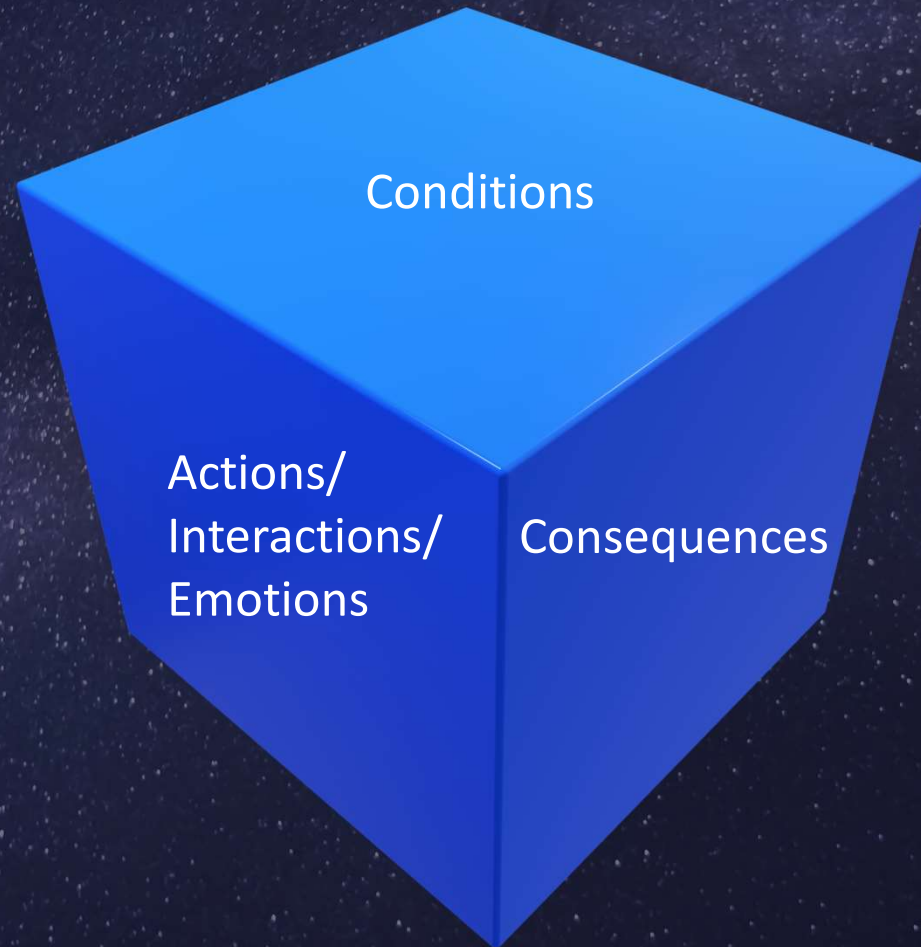
Dimension



CATEGORIES, PROPERTIES, DIMENSIONS



CONSIDER NEED FOR PARADIGM



RESEARCH EXEMPLARS

Busby

Busby Theory of Situational Awareness in Multi-Casualty Incidents

Category – The Human Factor

Properties – Emotions Experienced (Managing Emotions)

“The parents were there. I remember um, thinking how did they get there so quick, but they did. And Mom was there and I remember thinking how awful that was to have to roll that baby by her and her see me doing compressions and bagging that baby.”

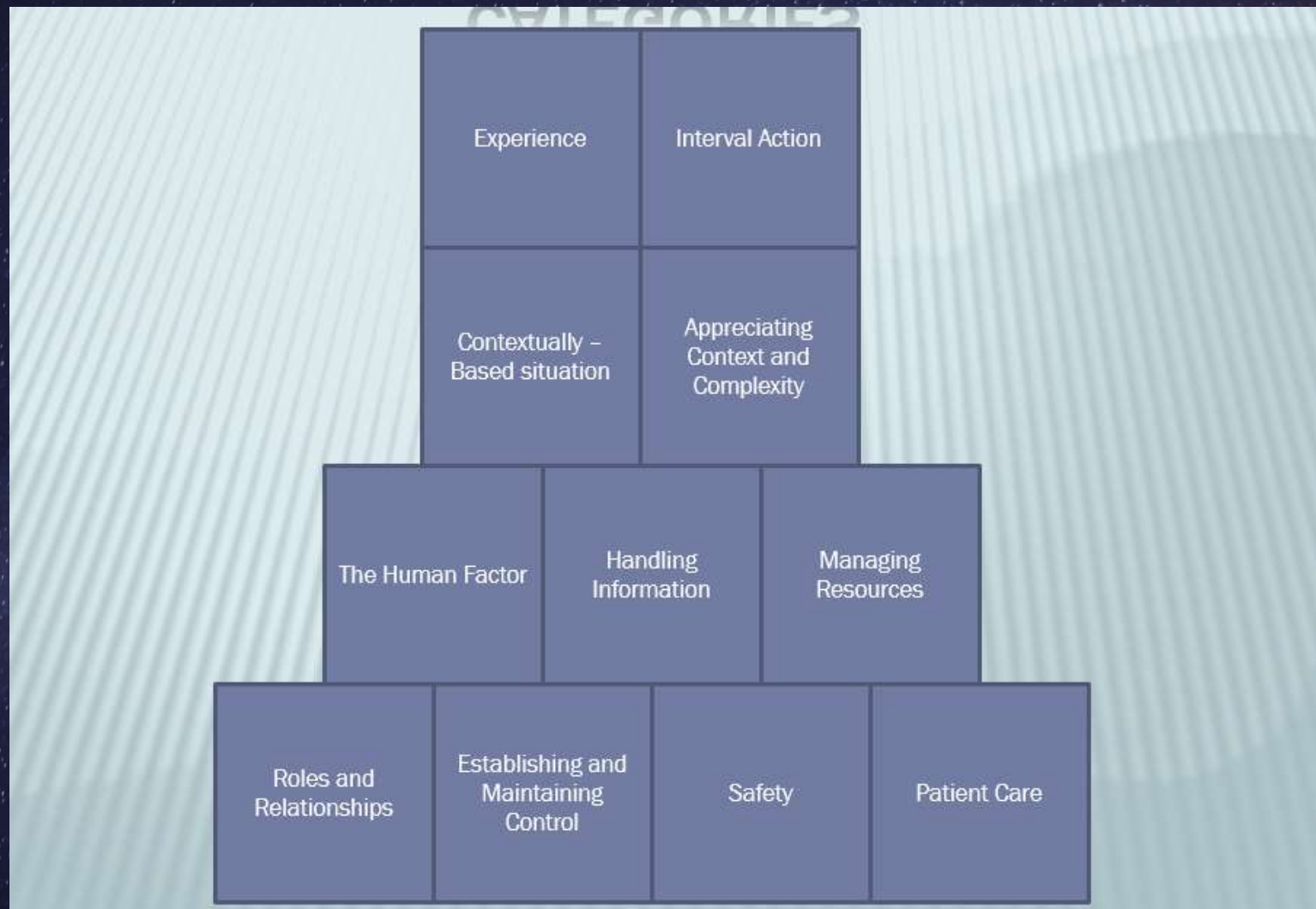
To view: Tennessee Research and Creative Exchange (TRACE)

RESEARCH EXEMPLARS

Category: The Human Factor

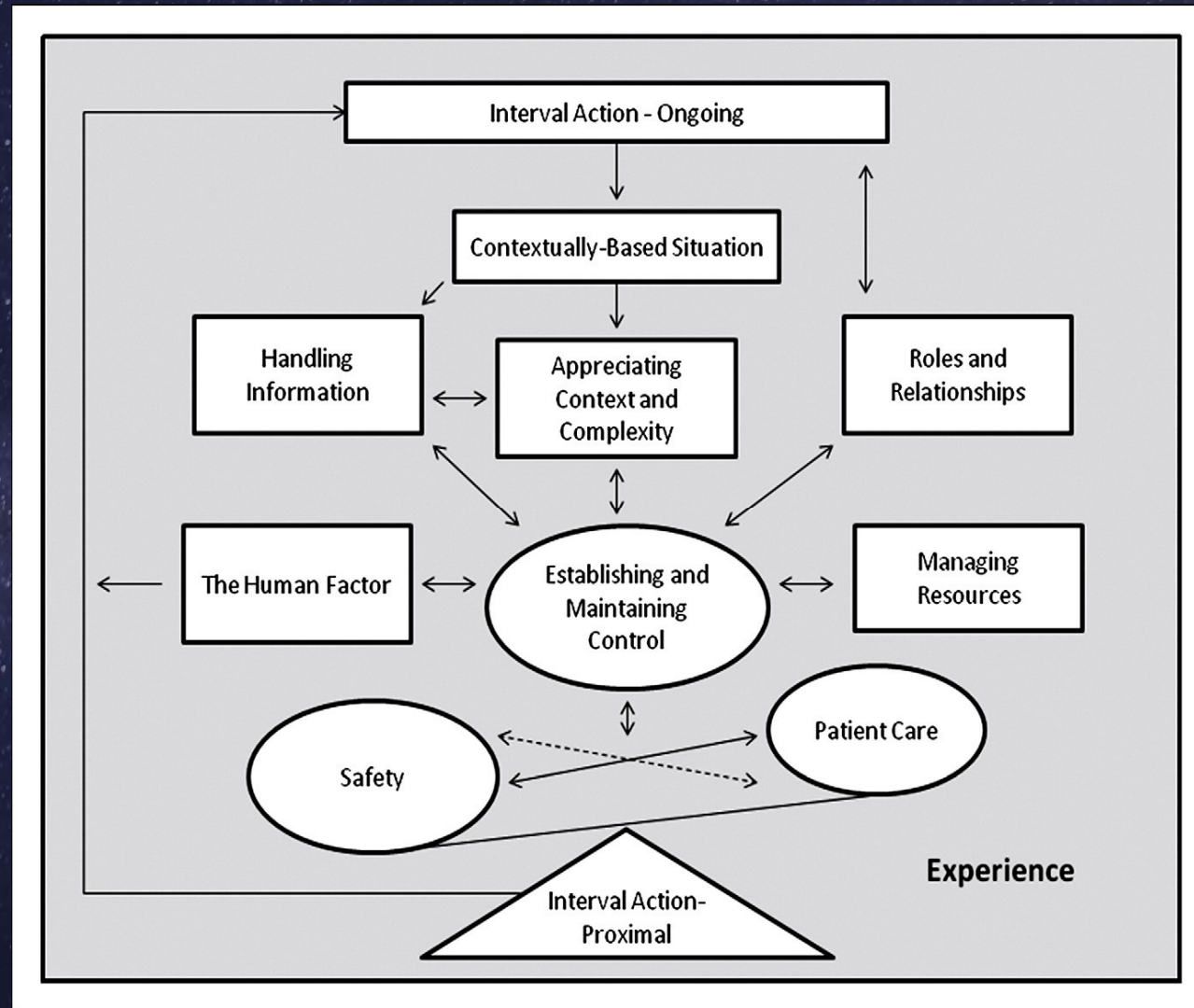


RESEARCH EXEMPLAR



BUSBY THEORY OF SITUATIONAL AWARENESS IN MULTI-CASUALTY INCIDENTS

Result of Axial Coding



ACTUAL RESEARCH EXEMPLARS

Espiritu, Busby and Colleagues

Students' self-perceptions of self-awareness/self-regulation when experiencing unexpected situations in an interprofessional clinical simulation

Theme: Emotional interactions

"she just kept repeating, like, you're letting my son die, you're letting him die, you're not doing anything, and that was just.....I felt like I was at a loss for words."

Theme: Self-Regulation

"At the end of the day there might not be a solution that's going to satisfy everyone...being ok with the fact that you're not going to be able to fix it."

Espiritu & Busby

Meaning and Impact in Interprofessional simulation participation for occupational therapy students

Theme: Appreciation for the experience

"I am still processing and still reeling from the simulation, but I feel it was so important. I didn't realize how essential it was for my learning until we had completed it."

Theme: Knowing what to say

"I often found myself saying the first thing that came to mind, instead of really asking myself if this was the right thing to say."

ACTUAL RESEARCH EXEMPLARS

Holly Knott: Belmont DNP Student

*Debriefing Among Hospice
Professionals During a Pandemic*

Theme: Self-care

Property: Difficult to Provide

“My compassion fatigue and burnout are increasing every week, and self-care I know is the greatest antidote to that, but it almost seems more difficult to provide it whenever you’re feeling that way.”

Ashley Vasilik: Belmont DNP Student

*Triage Processes in Primary Care
Clinics*

Category: External Factors

Property: Understanding Colleagues

“being...comfortable with the people that are around you.”

METHODS OF RIGOR

- Bracketing Interview
- Immersion in and interaction with, data
- Multiple coders where possible
- Keep excellent audit trails, memos and field notes
- Research in area where you have some expertise – this produces theoretical sensitivity. (Corbin & Strauss, 2008)



METHODS OF RIGOR

- Theoretical sampling
- Luxury – if you have a qualitative group, review coding
- External auditor
- Member checking



REFERENCES PROVIDED UPON REQUEST

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION?

- Feel free to reach out to me
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