Bringing It Home

An Indigenous Research Model

An Overview Of The Key Concepts
DEFINING ABORIGINAL TERMS OF REFERENCE

ATR values an Aboriginal worldview. As a research tool it assists Indigenous researchers investigate, examine, explore and articulate findings, results, recommendations, and outcomes from within an Indigenous cultural context.

Kickett (1992 cited in NHMRC, 1997) proposed ATR as a, “necessary paradigm fo…

“.... One of the key factors which needs to be properly considered when operating in a cross-cultural setting is values….will not deal effectively with Aboriginal realities if they do not incorporate processes which enable Aboriginal participants…to come to terms with their own value system….an opportunity to systematically explore options....” (NRMC 1997, p.19)
“ATR encompasses

Cultural knowledge, understanding and experiences

Ways of thinking, working, reflecting

Incorporates specific and explicit cultural values, beliefs and priorities

Aboriginal standards derived, validated and practiced

Standards vary – diverse range of cultural values, beliefs, priorities within local settings

Specific context – to place terms and conditions on that which is important to their own lives

(NRMC 1997, p. 20)
The notion of a Cultural Philosophical Ethos Yavu-Kama-Harathunian (1998) suggests that, “CPE is that essential spiritual sense of knowing, that underpins all that evolves from an individual’s layers of understanding, histories, life experiences, knowledge, learning processes, beliefs, values, attitudes, motivations, awareness and sense of self as a human being who belongs to a particular cultural group. It is the storehouse that houses an individual’s human experiences, everything that gives him/her recognition for their sense of belonging and being part of a cultural group. It connects the individual’s internal and external human experiences to their spiritual and cultural identity.”
CPE is that unique intimate, personal and individual sense of being that expresses an internal acceptance of certain ways of being and doing that includes language expression, behavioral and cognitive expression, emotional and spiritual expression. From this the individual constructs their worldview, reference terms, and opinions, about themselves as different and or similar to others, and also humanly part of a unique particular group. It is an internal core element of an individual’s sense of personal and spiritual identity (Yavu-Kama-Harathunian, 1998).

CONCEPTUALISING CPE WITHIN ATR

BEST SUITED TO SPIRITUAL, EMOTIONAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL NEEDS OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLE.

Gibson and Yavu-Kama-Harathunian (2003) working together were able to develop and conceptualise a model that clearly articulated the notion that Yavu-Kama-Harathunian (1998) had hypothesised and from this they created a diagram that demonstrated the notion of Cultural Philosophical Ethos as a ‘theory
“In order to understand Aboriginal Cultural Philosophical Ethos, one must unravel how Aboriginality was constructed.”

“Aboriginal” constructed by colonial Australia to define the First Nations Peoples for their understanding

Original peoples were tribal, clan oriented, group/family relating

“Aboriginal “conveyed to colonists an image of the peoples whom they had conquered the term continues to colonise through research
An Overview Of The Key Concepts

Non-Aboriginal Methodological Domains That Resonate With Aboriginal Terms Of Reference And Cultural Philosophical Ethos

Non-Indigenous Domains (NID)

Action Research

Phenomenography

Ethnography
THE CENTRALITY OF CPE THEORY

Aboriginal Spirituality

1. Cultural Elements
   Aboriginal heritage, Aboriginal history

2. Cultural Elements
   Values and beliefs, aspirations

3. Understandings
   Knowledge and practices, thinking, working and reflecting

4. Aspirations
   Family, structure, goals, priorities, and future directions

5. Cultural Elements
   Kinship, obligation, behavioural expectations, heritage

6. Cultural Elements
   Rights, obligations, contextual expectations, heritage

7. Experiences
   Interaction, socialisation, historical factors, current situation and feelings

Holistic Wellness
   Centrality, respected and confirmed culture

Self Awareness and Collective Awareness
   Identity, cultural integrity, dreaming past, present and future

Language of Healing Paradigm
   Body and verbal language, yarning, other wisdoms, communication protocols

Aboriginal CPE
   Protocols, practice, rituals, ceremonies

Aboriginal Lore
   Aboriginal Law

Aboriginal Terms of Reference

7. Ethnography

6. Phenomenography

5. Action Research

4. Action Research

3. Action Research

2. Action Research

1. Action Research

NID

CPE

SPACE

TIME

Aboriginal Spirituality

SPACE

TIME

CPE THEORY
1. Cultural Elements
   - Aboriginal heritage
   - Aboriginal history

2. Cultural Elements
   - Values and beliefs
   - Aspirations

3. Understandings, knowledge and practice
   - Thinking, working and reflecting

4. Experiences
   - Interaction, socialisation, historical factors, current situation and feelings

5. Cultural Elements
   - Kinship, obligation, behavioural expectations, heritage

6. Cultural Elements
   - Kinship, obligation, behavioural expectations, heritage

7. Experiences
   - Interaction, socialisation, historical factors, current situation and feelings

Aboriginal Lore, Aboriginal Law
Aboriginal CPE Protocols, practices, rituals, ceremonies

Language of Healing Paradigm
- Body and verbal language, yarning, other wisdoms, communication protocols

Self Awareness and Collective Awareness
- Identity, cultural integrity, dreaming past present and future

Spiritual identity, land connection, life experiences, belongingness, knowingness

Holistic Wellness
- Centeredness, respect and confirmation of culture

Action Research
- Phenomenography

Ethnography
- Aboriginal Lore, Aboriginal Law

Aboriginal CPE Protocols, practices, rituals, ceremonies

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WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION
WE WELCOME COMMENT AND DISCUSSION
GO WELL, STAY WELL, BE WELL
THANK YOU
The Authors acknowledge

Background Art:

• Landscape Photography accessed at www.AllPosters.com (Slides 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)
• Space Images .com, Hubble 2007 Photos accessed on July 2007 (Slides 1, 7, 19, 21)
• Local Aboriginal Artist, James Chapman 2007, Bundaberg Qld (Slides 11, 15)
• The Sky Photos.com archive of sky and cloud photography (Slides 2, 13, 14)