

The Life Story Board as Tool for Qualitative Research in the Social Sciences

List of Research Projects Using LSB as interview modality (August 2017)

- 1) *A Training Report to Use Life Story Board to Address the Met and Unmet Needs of Vancouver's Homeless/ Street Involved Youth.* A social work student researcher used the LSB to interview four homeless teenagers seeking mental health care for Covenant House, Vancouver, British Columbia (P. Napastiuk MSW, School of Social Work, University of Victoria). April 2015
- 2) *Experiences of Harm Reduction in relation to Injection Drug Use in Ottawa: Community-Based Research Applications of the Vidaview Life Story Board Interview Tool.* The primary aim of this study was to enhance the understanding of harm reduction practices in relation to injection drug use among people who use drugs in Ottawa. 24 interviews of peers conducted by peers using the LSB were audio-recorded, with sequential overhead photos of the lifescape. The study's method of inquiry was interpretive phenomenological analysis (IPA). Seven researchers and peer-interviewers conducted the study. August 2015; publication
 - a. Boucher et al. Expanding conceptualizations of harm reduction: results from a qualitative community-based participatory research study with people who inject drugs, *Harm Reduction Journal* (2017) 14:18
- 3) *Multi-national Qualitative Study of Children's Wellbeing.* The SHRRC funded study by Red River College (Winnipeg, Manitoba) was part of the larger *Children's Worlds* study in 20 countries to understand children's subjective well-being and how they experience daily activities within their families, neighbourhoods and at school. Two researchers conducted the Winnipeg study.
 - a. Ashley Stewart-Tufescu, Elizabeth Huynh, R Chase, J Mignone "The Life Story Board: a promising task-oriented, visual research tool to explore children's perspectives on well-being" submitted Feb 2017 to Child Indicators Research

abstract: This paper describes the findings from a qualitative investigation of a task-oriented, visual research method, the Life Story Board™ (LSB), applied to explore school-age children's understanding of well-being. Twenty-one children between 8 and 12 years of age from the Canadian pilot of the CUWB utilized the LSB. Results indicate that children found the LSB to be engaging and helpful to facilitate their articulation of subjective well-being. Autonomy and inclusiveness; validation of children's experiences and agency; and developmentally-sensitive approach were central themes related to the utilization of LSB. Based on these results, this paper suggests that the LSB seems to be a promising participatory, child-centered, rights-based qualitative research tool.
- 4) *Newcomer Workers Voices Matter.* The project was a participatory research with newcomer workers from Winnipeg food processing plants. It involved seven semi-structured, one-and-half hour interviews using the LSB to explore aspects of their work life. The sessions were digitally recorded from above the storyboard. Study objectives was to test LSB methods as a way to better engage newcomers, working in food processing plants, and to facilitate a novel collective narrative process where newcomer workers can gather to review common experiences from their personal stories. Three researchers conducted the study.
- 5) *Tools for Change: African Immigrant Women Living with HIV Use Photography and Digital Storytelling to Reflect on Care and Supports.* This study involved an ethnographic approach

within established relationships between staff and a group of newcomer women within a larger HIV prevention and awareness project in Winnipeg. The participatory research was conducted with a group of immigrant and refugee women from a number of African countries connected to the Sexuality Education Research Centre. The purpose of the study was to generate biographical narratives of care and supports in order to piece together a fuller story of how care services mesh in the women's lives. The study used the LSB, in conjunction with photography. Three interviewers used the LSB.

- 6) *“Revisiting Historical Trauma: Impact on Treatment in Aboriginal Males living with HIV/AIDS in British Columbia”*, Vancouver. Interpretive description approach. (Meck Chongo PhD candidate UNBC)
 - a. “The Life Story Board as a tool for qualitative research: Interviews with HIV positive Indigenous males” Chongo, M., Chase, R. M., Lavoie, J. G., Harder, H., Mignone, J. abstract: Within the context of a study about the lived experiences of Indigenous males living with HIV in Vancouver, Canada, we explored the utilization of an innovative method of collecting the narratives of study participants. The article describes and assesses the use of the Life Story Board (LSB) as a potentially rich interview tool for qualitative research. The study was part of a broader study (not reported here) that explored the impact of historical trauma on Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART) adherence among Indigenous males living with HIV. The article provides first provides context about historical trauma among Indigenous people in Canada and the role of narrative in lived experiences of historical trauma. After a description of the LSB, the article assesses its use as an interview tool for qualitative research, exploring the process, and its advantages and challenges. (Accepted for publication, International Journal of Qualitative Methods, Aug 20170
- 7) *Filipina/o youths’ transnational identities in urban schools*. The study is investigating the impact of global migration and Canada’s Live-in Caregiver Program (LCP) on the school experiences of Filipina (female) and Filipino (male) youth. It uses a critical ethnography approach. One interviewer used the LSB. (Jessica Ticar PhD candidate, University of Western Ontario).
- 8) *Exploring the Impact of the Abecedarian Early Childhood Intervention on Parents and Caregivers in a Subsidized Housing Complex* The purpose of this research project is to capture the broader influence of an intervention with vulnerable young children on the adults around them. The Life Story Board will be the tool for interviewing parents’ and caregivers’ experiences with the Abecedarian Manitoba (AM) project, a targeted Early Child Development (ECD) intervention currently being implemented in the Lord Selkirk Park Housing Complex, an impoverished community with a high indigenous population in Winnipeg’s North End.