



(SOME) BEST PRACTICES IN TID CAMP EVALUATION



Hi, I'm Ryan

- Assistant Professor of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism at Clemson
- Factors that promote youth thriving
 - Within out-of-school-time settings
 - Among children with disability and/or chronic illness
 - Among high poverty populations
- Application and translation of quantitative methods
- Helicopter Parenting



WHY DO WE EVALUATE?

- To tell our story
- To understand where we are meeting our goals
- To provide evidence to funders
- To ensure accountability
- To support programmatic sustainability
- Credibility



CLARITY IN PROGRAM GOALS

What is it we do here?

Can we meet all of these goals in our time period?

Are these outcomes malleable?



IS IMPLEMENTATION CONSISTENT

Are our programs being delivered the same across facilitators?

Is the evaluation being done the same way across folks?





CONFIRMATION BIAS

“I want to evaluate my program to prove that it works”

Fear of finding it might not work the way we believe

You need leadership that allows for program failure





INSUFFICIENT, INCOMPLETE,
INACCURATE DATA

Pilot Data

Small Sample Sizes → Small
Conclusions

New Scales



SELECTION BIAS

- Who isn't here and why?
- Certain groups tend to complete questionnaires at a greater rate
- How can we incentivize participation from underrepresented groups?





SOCIAL DESIRABILITY

Heroes and Villains?

I want share a positive
story

No news isn't good news



TIME AND RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS

“Back of the van”

Must dedicate time and space for respondents to reflect on their experience

Lack of continuity

Evaluators should be trained and able to improvise

PROBLEMATIC MEASUREMENT

Measures don't reflect the
program goals

Measures are unproven
with the cohort

Measures can't change in
the time period that the
intervention is prescribing





EIGHT CONSIDERATIONS TO LOOK FOR WHEN CONDUCTING YOUR EVALUATION

Clarity in Program Goals and Objectives

Implementation Quality

Confirmation Bias

Insufficient Data

Selection Bias

Social Desirability Bias

Time and Resource Constraints

Problematic Measurement