Review of Methodologies in Gender Balance Research in ECEC

28th August 2018, Gender Balance SIG Conference, Budapest

Question:

- Does existing research offer competing or complementing findings/conclusions?

### A brief overview of methodologies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Methods</th>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Sample size</th>
<th>Theoretical Framework</th>
<th>Research Focus/Questions</th>
<th>Research contexts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Qualitative</td>
<td>Interviews; Case studies; Observations (including videos); Focused groups; Content analysis; Action research; Documentary evidence; Wall displays</td>
<td>Male &amp; Female Practitioners; Parents; Centre leaders/managers; Children;</td>
<td>&lt;10 or 10-30; &gt;100;</td>
<td>Poststructuralism; Masculinities theory; Queer theory; Social constructivism; Deconstructivism; Discourse theory; Cultural theory; Microsociology; Ethnomethodology;</td>
<td>Perceptions/Attitudes; Men's role in ECEC; Work experiences; Gender identities; Gender discourses; Gender performance;</td>
<td>Predominantly 'western' cultures (UK, Germany, Austria, Norway, Australia, Sweden ...);</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quantitative</td>
<td>Questionnaires; Statistical data analysis; Quantitative phone interviews; Psychological tests</td>
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<td>&gt;100; 30-100; 10-30;</td>
<td>Attachment theory; Psychoanalytic Theories of Gender;</td>
<td>Interactions between practitioners &amp; children; Workplace culture;</td>
<td>Emerging in other countries like China (including Hong Kong), South Africa;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mixed Methods</td>
<td>Quasi-experimental</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Activity:

- Separate the team into groups of 4 (preferably with a mix of researchers who have used either qualitative, quantitative or mixed methods);
- Share information within your group about the projects you have done, including aspects like: research methods, research questions, sample & sample size, theoretical framework, research contexts, and key findings/conclusions;
- Discuss how your findings/conclusions relate to others' projects;
- Present your group discussions to the plenary in 5 minutes.

**Future directions for gender balance research in ECEC?**