

Donna M Mertens, Professor Emeritus, Gallaudet University

Half-day workshop proposal for Center for Culturally Responsive Evaluation and Assessment (CREA) 2017, Chicago, September 26-29 2017

Workshop Title: Transformative Mixed Methods Designs in Evaluation for Social Justice

Brief Description: This workshop uses a transformative lens to inform the development of mixed methods designs for evaluations that support changes to strengthen human rights and social justice in marginalized communities.

Description: Developments in the use of mixed methods have extended beyond the practice of combining surveys and focus groups. The sophistication of transformative mixed methods designs in evaluation will be explained and demonstrated through illustrative examples taken from diverse sectors and geographical regions. Transformative mixed methods designs will include major types of evaluation: effectiveness of interventions, instrument development, policy evaluation, and systematic reviews. Participants will have the opportunity to create transformative mixed methods designs using evaluation vignettes for each type of evaluation.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this workshop, participants will be able to:

1. identify the components of transformative mixed methods designs in evaluation for the purpose of determining intervention effectiveness, instrument development, policy evaluation, and systematic review.
2. use a case study to apply the concepts of transformative mixed methods design for a specific context.

Faculty

Donna M Mertens is Professor Emeritus at Gallaudet University, a university with a mission to serve Deaf and hard of hearing students. Mertens developed the transformative approach to evaluation as a response to concerns raised by members of marginalized communities about the harm done when evaluations are designed without considering issues of discrimination and social justice. Mertens published *Mixed Methods Design in Evaluation* (2018) with Sage and *Program Evaluation Theory and Practice* (2012) with Guilford Press. She served as the editor of the *Journal of Mixed Methods Research* for 5 years and chaired the Mixed Methods International Research Association's task force on the future of mixed methods: challenges and opportunities 2015-2016. She is an active evaluator and currently engaged in the enterprise across a variety of settings. She held long-term leadership positions in AEA, including the presidential position 1997-1999 and the Board 2000-2002. She continues to serve as an advisor to AEA's diversity fellowship program through subsequent years.

Outline 8-12:30 (or afternoon?)

The workshop will be divided into 5 sections.

First, the basic vocabulary of mixed methods design will be explained and transformative mixed

methods design will be put into the context of evaluation work.

Second, transformative mixed methods designs will be explained and demonstrated for the purpose of determining an intervention's effectiveness. The participants will be given an evaluation vignette and asked to develop a mixed methods design.

Third, this process will be repeated for the purpose of using transformative mixed methods designs for instrument development.

Fourth, this process will be repeated for the purpose of policy evaluation.

Finally, this process will be repeated for the purpose of systematic reviews.