



The University of Sydney



Social Policy Research Network
Faculty of Education and Social Work
University of Sydney

**Building an Evidence Base
to Inform Practice**

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Building an evidence base for practice.

- Why Research?
 - What constitutes evidence?
 - Doing and Disseminating research
 - Collaborative research
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Why Do Research?

- There is an aspect of your work you want to investigate further
 - Existing studies have highlighted areas that warrant further investigation
 - You want to know that your practice is making a difference
 - You want to influence policy
 - You want to ensure that your experience/knowledge informs the evidence
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What constitutes Evidence

- Who decides what constitutes evidence?
 - What are the implications of this?
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Social Research Frame

- Literature Review
 - Research Design (including time frame)
 - Overarching research question
 - Sub research questions
 - Ethical Issues
 - Quantitative/Qualitative/Mixed Method
 - Research Approach
 - Data Collection Method(s)
 - Data Analysis Techniques
 - Evaluation of Research Process and Project
 - Dissemination of Findings
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Doing and Disseminating Research

- Resources
 - Having managers on board from the outset
 - Always being clear about the purpose of the research
 - Having a dissemination plan
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Collaborative Research

- Work across agencies
 - Network
 - Involve Universities
 - Advisory and consultative roles
 - Commissioned Research
 - Partnered Grants
 - By participating in networks such as the Social Policy Research Network
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