Visual expressions of the 'healthy body' and body image: A Photovoice project with female First Nations youth



Jennifer Shea Ph.D. Candidate April 3, 2009



PHOTOVOICE

A Participatory research method

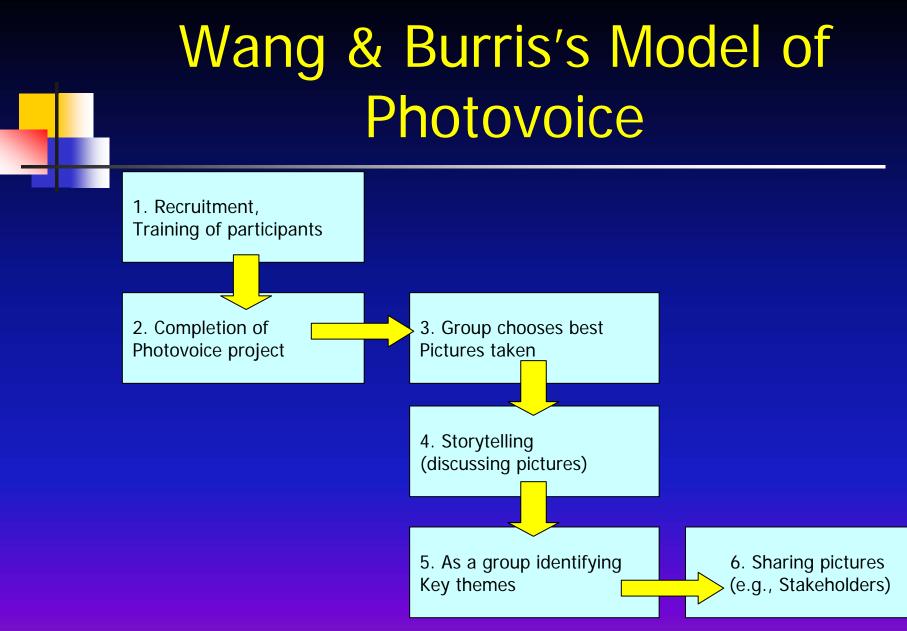
3 goals

Individuals record cares, concerns & ideas

Promotion of critical dialogue (community, groups, etc...) through the photographs
To reach policy makers



"This method is particularly important to the experiences of women. It fosters an appreciation of women's subjective experience, and promotes a practice in which policies are carried out "by and with women instead of on women, in ways that empower people, honor women's intelligence and value knowledge grounded in personal experience" (www.photovoice.com)

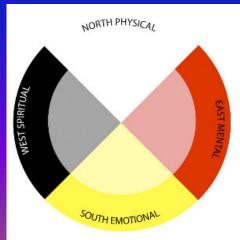


Adapted from: Wang & Burris, 1997; Castleden et al., 2008; & Whitney, 2006

Context

- Youth and Health
 Obesity epidemic
- At "risk" population
- Biomedical vs. traditional model





Visual Methodologies & Youth

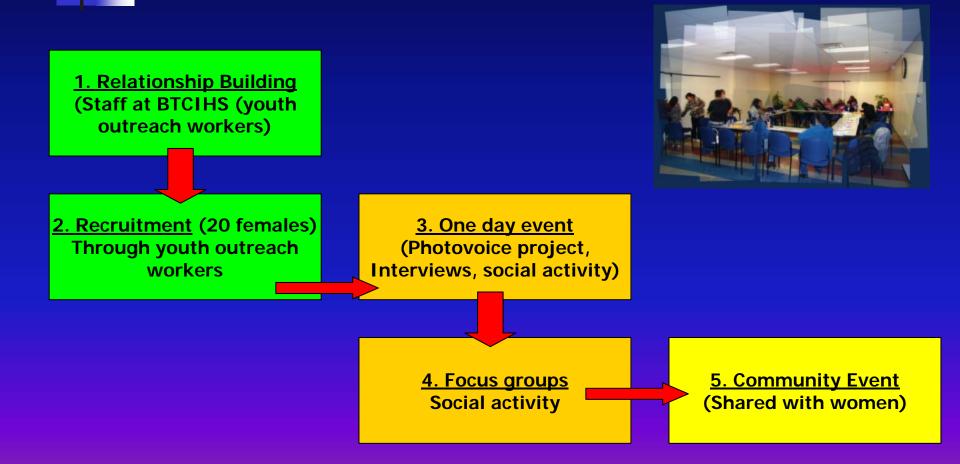
- Deacon notes that this is a valuable method in work with children
- The use of visual methods can work toward revealing youth's understandings in more detail
- A focus on the social context and world of youth



Adapting Photovoice for youth

- Others have noted the importance of modifying Photovoice in studies with youth
 - Castleden, Garvin & huu-ay-aht First Nation
 - Whitney

Photovoice Model: Research with female First Nations Youth











-0

Piziatut

ADTEL

VICANCY











Concluding thoughts

Modifying Photovoice

Preliminary findings that have emerged from this research

Strengths of Photovoice

References

- Castleden, H., Garvin, T., & Huu-ay-aht First Nation. (2008). Modifying Photovoice for community-based participatory Indigenous research. *Social Science & Medicine, 66*, 1393-1405.
- Deacon, S. (2000). Creativity within Qualitative Research on Families: New Ideas for Old Methods. *The Qualitative Report*, <u>4</u>(3 & 4). Available at: <u>http://www.nova.edu/ssss/QR/QR4-1/deacon.html</u>
- Ermine. W., Sinclair, R., & Browne, M. (2005). IPHRC Kwayask itotamowin:
- Indigenous Research Ethics. Regina: Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Centre.
- Morrow, V. (2001). Using Qualitative Methods to elicit young people's perspectives on their environments: some ideas for community health initiatives. *Health Education Research, 16* (3), 255-268
- Wang, C., & Burris, M. (1997). Photovoice: Concept, Methodology, and use for Participatory Needs Assessment. *Health Education & Behavior, 24*(3), 369-387.
- Whitney, J.C. (2006). My Education: Students with Disabilities Describe High School in Pictures and Words. *TEACHING Exceptional Children Plus, 3*(2). Article 1, Retrieved August 20, 2008 from <u>http://escholarship.bc.edu/education/tecplus/vol3/iss2/art1</u>
- <u>www.photovovice.com</u>