

Andy's response to Sonia's Abstract, Conversation Café on the 2nd February 2018

I have worked on my Abstract and would really appreciate if we could look at it on Friday to see if it is more authentic and captures my research:

I think your passion and commitment comes through as authentic I am not sure if it describes, sums up or captures your research as your living theory of mutuality yet. I have taken the text and subjected it to a deconstruction to see what may happen here is your unedited text followed by a deconstructed version. I think you have some very important ideas both in the abstract and throughout the PhD and I am really looking forward to being able to both refer to and use some of your ideas in the course of my own work.

My living-theory of caring as mutuality recognises that caring has a lack in it, particularly in this current climate where caring can be lost to bureaucracy, regulation and burnout and has suffered from a mentality of doing to people rather than working with people. My original contribution to knowledge is of particular relevance in three significant areas; foster care; unpaid caring and charity leadership because of my lived experience in these areas. My self-study research has found that caring is meaningful when there is mutuality for all involved. Those involved may give and receive very differently, however both will learn, develop and grow from the relationship.

Through my own lived experience, I have found that in order to maintain the energy to continue caring, that self-care is vital to practice caring as mutuality.

My unique constellation of values of love, hope, justice and participation underpin my living-theory of caring as mutuality. I develop my own meanings of my values through my story and creatively and critically engaging with the literature. To me, love means acting with compassion for the other, hope means opening a space for better possibilities, justice means acting to treat people fairly and right and participation means acting to engage people to improve their own world.

I have found that when I am living my values fully I experience myself living caring as mutuality in practice which enables me to be the change I want to be in the world. I have found a space opens within the relational dynamic where I am able to influence my own learning, the learning of others and the learning of social formations whilst bringing hope for the flourishing of humanity through the interaction.

My living-theory of caring as mutuality recognises that caring has a lack in it, particularly in this current climate where caring can be lost to bureaucracy, regulation and burnout and has suffered from a mentality of doing to people rather than working with people.

You may like to consider how caring can have a lack? Do you mean all aspects, contexts, situations and relationships of caring? My concern is that the way I read it

I am not sure but I think you may mean?

Your living theory of caring as mutuality addresses some fundamental flaws in the regulation, demands on carers and professional carer support sector within our cultures that has suffered from the thinking and approach of 'doing to people' rather than working with people.

My original contribution to knowledge is of particular relevance in three significant areas; foster care, unpaid caring and charity leadership because of my lived experience in these areas.

Should this perhaps read:

My original contribution to knowledge is located and situated within three significant areas; foster care, unpaid caring and charity leadership.

And rather than: Because of my lived experience in these areas. Possibly?

Where my lived experience has informed my living theory approach

My self-study research has found that caring is meaningful when there is mutuality for all involved. Those involved may give and receive very differently; however both will (*could possibly*) learn, develop and grow from the relationship.

Through my own lived experience, I have found that in order to maintain the energy to continue caring, that self-care is vital to practice caring as mutuality. I really love this!

My unique constellation of values of love, hope, justice and participation underpin my living-theory of caring as mutuality. I would add within the contexts further of '*located and situated within three significant areas; foster care, unpaid caring and charity leadership*'

I develop my own meanings of my values through my story and creatively and critically engaging with the literature. To me, love means acting with compassion for the other, hope means opening a space for better possibilities, justice means acting to treat people fairly and right and participation means acting to engage people to improve their own world.

As I develop my own meanings of my values through my story *whilst* creatively and critically engaging with the literature.

What specific and general area of subject literature? Describe the scope for us?

I have found that when I am living my values fully I experience myself living caring as mutuality in practice which enables me to be the change I want to be in the world.

So in order to be the change in the world you want to be you: *fully experience living caring as mutuality?*

I have found a space opens (*Where?*) within the relational dynamic (*Of What?*) where I am able to influence my own learning, the learning of others and the learning of social formations whilst bringing hope for the flourishing of humanity through the interaction (*How?*).