Collaborative, participatory, and empowerment (CP&E) evaluation

**SESSION VII** 

# Moderating Meaningful Focus Groups in CP&E Evaluation

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- 1. Establishing Ground Rules
- 2. Typology of Problem Participant Behavior
- 3. Adressing Problem Behavior: 3 steps
  Activity: Quadrant Map of Problem Participant Behavior Types
  Activity: Problem Behavior Correction Continuum

#### **1. Establishing Ground Rules**

- Be aware of group dinamics and establish group norms, ground rules, saying things like:
  - -We are not here to reach consensus
  - -Every opinion is equal to us
  - -We don t want anyone to dominate
  - -Speaks one at a time
  - -Respect each others and each others opinions
  - -Ask if they agree or want to add something before moving on









#### **1. Establishing Ground Rules**

- Authenticity of the moderator to create the necessary sense of safety
- Foster interest, buy in, trust, encouraging communication.



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#### 2. Typology of Problem Participant Behavior

Defining characteristics of four types that are ALWAYS problems

- Dominator
- Cynic
- Hostile
- Intoxicated











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#### 2. Typology of Problem Participant Behavior

**Defining characteristics of four types** that are ALWAYS problems

Dominator



Dominator
-Long responses
-Frequently the first to answer
- Speaks with tone of self-appointed expert
- Dismisses other participants' opinions
- Challenges moderator for control of the group dynamic

Non-Verbal Cues	Sits directly opposite the moderator     Extreme body language     Deliberative gestures, like finger pointing or table pounding
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#### 2. Typology of Problem Participant Behavior

**Defining characteristics of four types** that are ALWAYS problems

Cynic



	Cynic
	-Negative toward everything
Characteristic Behavior	-Closed mind and body
	-Sees fault in everything and everyone
	-Seems to enjoy being argumentative and taking the negative view

- Shares some cues with hostile, though less
- or show other signs of disagreement and often disrespect when others











# Defining characteristics of four types that are ALWAYS problems

Hostile



# -Immediate demands for corrective action -May share many qualities with dominator -Angry, combative demeanor -May become irrational and incomprehensible as anger overwhelms ability to communicate

-Extreme body language
-Documents prepared
-Irritated, complains
-Confrontational demeanor
-Often will confront hostess
or other front line
personnel

EOLLOWERS



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#### 2. Typology of Problem Participant Behavior

Defining characteristics of four types that are ALWAYS problems

Intoxicated



	Intoxicated
	-Slurred speech
	-Sleepy, agitated, extreme behaviors
Characteristic Behavior	-Behavior manifestations are related to the type, nature and amount of drug abused

-Smells of alcohol or marijuana
-Red eyes
|-Fidgety
-Other signs of drug use



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### 2. Typology of Problem Participant Behavior

Defining characteristics of four types that are SOMETIMES problems

Wallflower

Follower

Co-Moderator

Blatherer

Proselytizer

Joker



## 2. Typology of Problem Participant Behavior

Defining characteristics of four types that are SOMETIMES problems

Wallflower



	Wallflower
	- Seeks to be invisible in the group
Characteristic	-Will only speak when spoken to directly
Behavior	-Answers in very short, shy non-committal manner
	l

Non-Verbal
Cues

Non-Verbal
Cues

Réfuses eye contact with moderator or other participants

- May slink or slump in his/her chair







Defining characteristics of four types that are SOMETIMES problems

Follower



	Follower
	- Expresses no personal opinion, only supports opinions of others
Characteristic	- Always agrees with others
Behavior	- Repeats others' opinions
	- Easily persuaded

	- Shyness
	- Shakes head in agreement while others talk
Non-Verbal Cues	- Waits to follow lead of others in all regards
	<ul> <li>Resists being the first to talk by looking away as moderator asks questions</li> </ul>



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#### 2. Typology of Problem Participant Behavior

Defining characteristics of four types that are SOMETIMES problems

Co-Moderator



Characteristic
Behavior

Non-Verbal

Cues

 Seeks to be "friends" or especially supportive of other respondents

Sits adjacent to

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#### 2. Typology of Problem Participant Behavior

Defining characteristics of four types that are SOMETIMES problems

Blatherer



#### Blatherer

 Long, off-topic, nonsensical responses
 Especially eaper

#### Characteristic Behavior

to please the moderator

- May string words together that have no apparent meaning or relevance to the topic

Non-Verbal

 Speaks without making eye contact with moderator or other respondents
 Excessive gesture

- Unaware or unresponsive to non-verbal cues to

### 2. Typology of Problem Participant Behavior

Defining characteristics of four types that are SOMETIMES problems

Proselytizer



# - Dogmatically argues that his/her point of view is correct - Can not recognize or accept that others hold opposing opinions - Seeks to persuade, or lacking this, disregard other

Proselytizer

valid viewpoints

Speaks to others in the group, not the moderator, as her/she seeks to persuade

Non-Verbal
Cues

- May be especially loud, with appearance of expert











Defining characteristics of four types that are SOMETIMES problems

Joker



	Joker
	- Can not be serious for extended periods
	- Everything is humorous
Characteristic Behavior	- Makes jokes, pranks, funny faces or gestures, often at inappropriate times and far too frequently for a productive group

-Seems to prefer message T-shirts and baseball caps

Non-Verbal Cues

-Will to his/her hand by being humorous, playful in waiting area



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Î	Dominator	Cynic	Hostile	Intoxicated
Characteristic Behavior	-Long responses -Frequently the first to answer -Speaks with tone of self-appointed expert -Dismisses other participants' opinions -Challenges moderator for control of the group dynamic	Negative toward everything     Closed mind and body     Sees fault in everything and everyone     Seems to enjoy being argumentative and taking the negative view	- Immediate demands for corrective action  - May share many qualities with dominator  - Angry, combative demeanor  - May become irrational and incomprehensible as anger overwhelms ability to communicate	-Slurred speech -Sleepy, agitated, extreme behaviors -Behavior manifestations are related to the type, nature and amount of drug abused

Non-Verbal Cues	Sits directly opposite the moderator     Extreme body language     Deliberative gestures, like finger pointing or table pounding	-Shares some cues with hostile, though less confrontational  -Smirks or rolls eyes in response to others comments  -Often will grimace, smirk or show other signs of disagreement and often disrespect when others speak	- Extreme body language - Documents prepared - Irritated, complains - Confrontational demeanor - Often will confront hostess or other front line personnel	-Smells of alcohol or marijuana -Red eyes   Fidgety -Other signs of drug use
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#### 2. Typology of Problem Participant Behavior

#### Of course...

- most people is a mixed of these typologies
- Others are contextual depending of the topic
- Others are contextual depending who else is in the room



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	- Seeks to be					
Characteristic Behavior	invisible in the group  -Will only speak when spoken to directly  -Answers in very short, shy non-committal manner	Expresses no personal opinion, only supports opinions of others - Always agrees with others - Repeats others' opinions     Easily persuaded	- Asks questions of the group - Re-directs moderator probes - Re-phrases moderator questions to the group - Seeks to summarize & analyze others	-Long, off-topic, nonsensical responses - Especially eager to please the moderator - May string words together that have no apparent meaning or relevance to the topic	- Dogmatically argues that his/her point of view is correct.  - Can not recognize or accept that others hold opposing opinions Seeks to persuade, or lacking this, disregard other valid viewpoints.	- Can not be serious for extended periods - Everything is humorous - Makes jokes, pranks, funny faces or gestures often at inappropriate times and far too frequently for a productive group

Non-Verbal Cues	Takes most out of the way, inconspicuous seat in the room     Refuses eye contact with moderator or other participants     May slink or slump in his/her chair	Shyness     Shakes head in agreement while others talk     Waits to follow lead of others in all regards     Resists being the first to talk by looking away as moderator asks questions	Sits adjacent to moderator     Seeks to be "friends" or especially supportive of other respondents	Speaks without making eye contact with moderator or other respondents     Excessive gestures     Unaware or unresponsive to non-verbal cues to talk less.	-Speaks to others in the group, not the moderator, as he/she seeks to persuade -May be especially loud, with appearance of expert	-Seems to prefer message T-shirts and baseball cape -Will tip his/her hand by being humorous, playful in waiting area
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## 3. Adressing Problem Behavior: 3 steps

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#### Strategy with three steps:

- Early identification: Even before they get in the room. Get the maximum clues about them, work with the recruter, meet the people in the waiting area...
- Prevention: Stablishing ground rules gives you permission later on to remember some of them.
- Management: Change dinamycs, move people, mix them up, tell them they are right (I agree with that; Yes! I think the same...), put them in smaller groups to discuss, break them up in pairs, send somebody home.







