Evaluation of an intervention for men experiencing angry emotions and violent behaviour

Men who experience feelings of anger and/or that behave in violent ways are limited in where they can go for support. In one society. The research may have implications to practice in the disciplines of health, social care and crime in the reduction of problematic and damaging for all involved. Interventions to address such behaviours can be valuable in terms of helping victims, individual perpetrators and wider society. The research may have implications to practice in the disciplines of health, social care and crime in the reduction and primary prevention of violence.

Realism can be used to make sense of complex social interventions and to understand what works, for who, in what circumstances and why. It is suggested that the use of Realism as a methodology for this evaluation is useful to explore the effectiveness of this intervention within the complex context of social factors. Violent behaviour is problematic and damaging for all involved. Interventions to address such behaviours can be valuable in terms of helping victims, individual perpetrators and wider society. The research may have implications to practice in the disciplines of health, social care and crime in the reduction and primary prevention of violence.

Possible Contexts Within Which the Intervention Operates
- Variables within the macro, meso and micro influences (above) will have affected and influenced the participants.

Possible Intervention Resource Mechanisms
- Participants have a safe place where they are encouraged to be themselves. The men receive non-judgemental attention and are encouraged to not judge themselves or the other participants.
- Facilitated peer support offers the creation of a community and feelings of connectedness to others.
- There is encouragement to find more positive ways to exercise volition, be self-reflective, recognise competencies and a develop a sense of meaning.

Potential Participant Outcomes
- Have initial assessment, then drop out;
- Attend early sessions but drop out;
- Attend but do not ‘engage’;
- More than 12 sessions needed, participant drops out;
- More than 12 sessions needed, participant says engaged, attitudes and behaviour change.

To test these programme theories semi-structured interviews will be conducted with a number of the intervention participants. “Realist evaluation proposes - among other methods of data collection - the use of theory-driven interviews to ‘inspire/validate/falsify/modify’ (Pawson, 1996: 295) hypotheses about how programmes and interventions work” (Manzano-Santaealta, 2016:n.p.). During interviews the participants will first be introduced to the programme theories. The participating men will then be asked questions around these concepts.

References

Markham, S. and White, A. (2016). Leeds Beckett University, Leeds, UK S.Markham@LeedsBeckett.ac.uk

Background

Realism can be used to make sense of complex social interventions and to understand what works, for who, in what circumstances and why. It is suggested that the use of Realism as a methodology for this evaluation is useful to explore the effectiveness of this intervention within the complex context of social factors. Violent behaviour is problematic and damaging for all involved. Interventions to address such behaviours can be valuable in terms of helping victims, individual perpetrators and wider society. The research may have implications to practice in the disciplines of health, social care and crime in the reduction and primary prevention of violence.

Method and Methodology

Realism can be used to make sense of complex social interventions and to understand what works, for who, in what circumstances and why. It is suggested that the use of Realism as a methodology for this evaluation is useful to explore the effectiveness of this intervention within the complex context of social factors. Violent behaviour is problematic and damaging for all involved. Interventions to address such behaviours can be valuable in terms of helping victims, individual perpetrators and wider society. The research may have implications to practice in the disciplines of health, social care and crime in the reduction and primary prevention of violence.

To test these programme theories semi-structured interviews will be conducted with a number of the intervention participants. “Realist evaluation proposes - among other methods of data collection - the use of theory-driven interviews to ‘inspire/validate/falsify/modify’ (Pawson, 1996: 295) hypotheses about how programmes and interventions work” (Manzano-Santaealta, 2016:n.p.). During interviews the participants will first be introduced to the programme theories. The participating men will then be asked questions around these concepts.

Possible Contexts Within Which the Intervention Operates
- Variables within the macro, meso and micro influences (above) will have affected and influenced the participants.

Possible Intervention Resource Mechanisms
- Participants have a safe place where they are encouraged to be themselves. The men receive non-judgemental attention and are encouraged to not judge themselves or the other participants. Facilitated peer support offers the creation of a community and feelings of connectedness to others.
- There is encouragement to find more positive ways to exercise volition, be self-reflective, recognise competencies and a develop a sense of meaning.

Potential Participant Outcomes
- Have initial assessment, then drop out;
- Attend early sessions but drop out;
- Attend but do not ‘engage’;
- More than 12 sessions needed, participant drops out;
- More than 12 sessions needed, participant says engaged, attitudes and behaviour change.

To test these programme theories semi-structured interviews will be conducted with a number of the intervention participants. “Realist evaluation proposes - among other methods of data collection - the use of theory-driven interviews to ‘inspire/validate/falsify/modify’ (Pawson, 1996: 295) hypotheses about how programmes and interventions work” (Manzano-Santaealta, 2016:n.p.). During interviews the participants will first be introduced to the programme theories. The participating men will then be asked questions around these concepts.

References

Markham, S. and White, A. (2016). Leeds Beckett University, Leeds, UK S.Markham@LeedsBeckett.ac.uk

Summary