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Ten years evaluating gendered interventions for vulnerable women and girls: what works?

Louise Warwick-Booth, Ruth Cross & Susan Coan



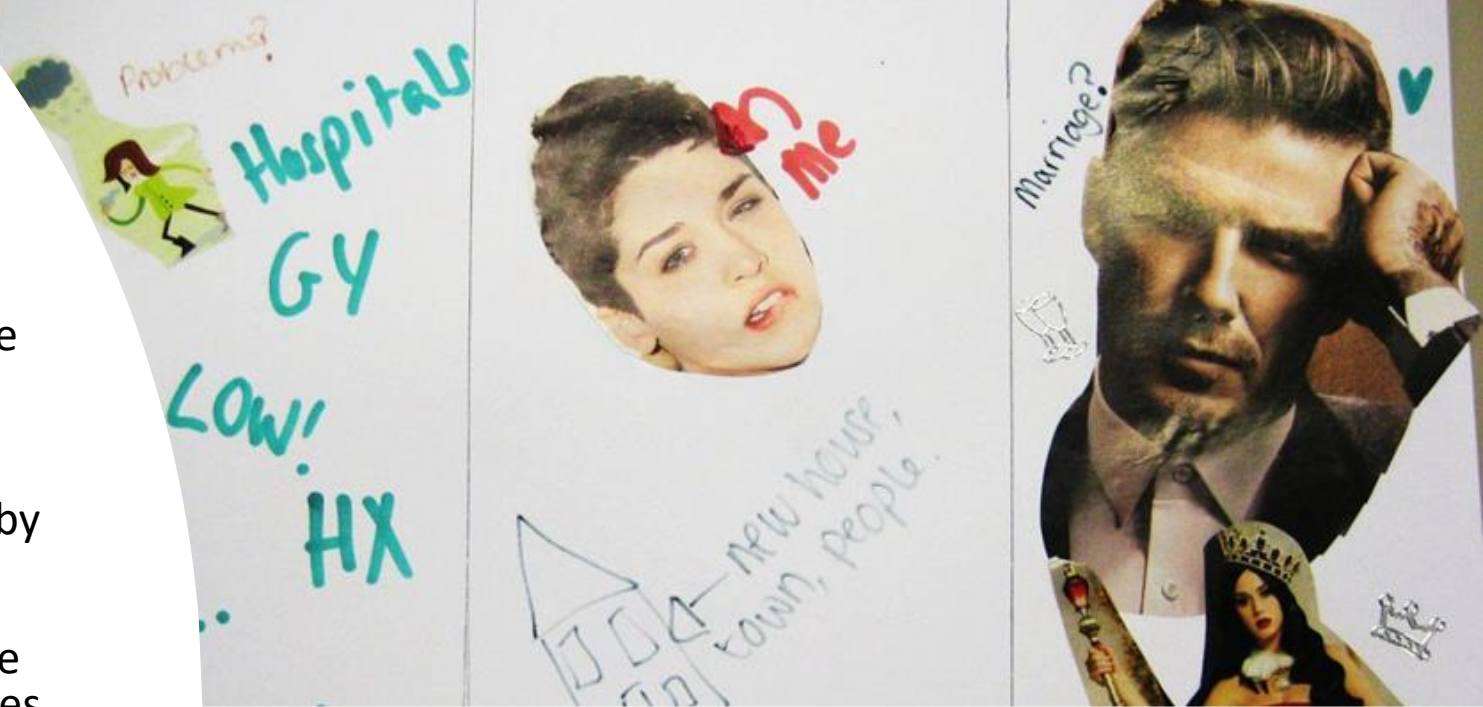
Today we will...

- Discuss of our ways of working
- Outline our evaluation findings – what works for vulnerable women and girls
- Reflect on voluntary sector issues and challenges



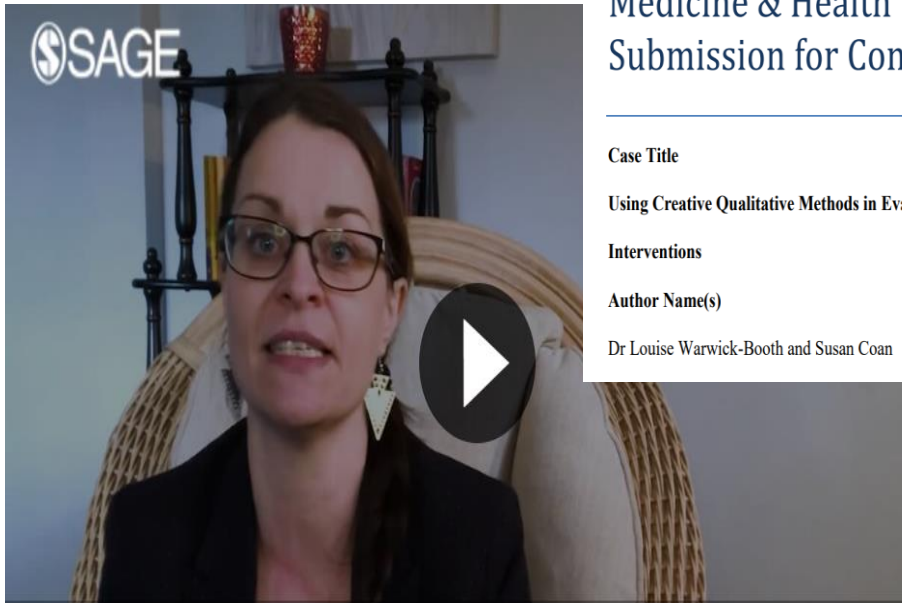
Our ways of working

- Women (service users) at the centre of the research approach
- Underpinned by feminist principles/positionality (done for women by women)
- Qualitative approaches which allow for the exploration of experiences and perspectives
- Focus groups, interviews, case studies
- Participatory, creative methods i.e. using story boards (Cross & Warwick-Booth, 2016), making 'recipes' (Warwick-Booth & Coan, 2021), peer researcher models, youth work tools...



Scope of our work

'You're not going to give a monkey's chuff': exploring co-production in the design of services for women who have experienced sexual violence



SAGE Research Methods Cases
Medicine & Health
Submission for Consideration

Case Title

Using Creative Qualitative Methods in Evaluating Gendered Health Promotion

Interventions

Author Name(s)

Dr Louise Warwick-Booth and Susan Coan

- *10 years of voluntary sector service evaluation*
- *Programmes to support:*
 - Young women at risk (x1)
 - Women experiencing domestic abuse (x2)
 - Women experiencing sexual violence (x1)
 - Health (x1)
 - Complex needs (x2)
 - Service access (x1)

Findings - 6 Key themes

A women-centred and gender-specific service

Being heard

A holistic, client-led approach

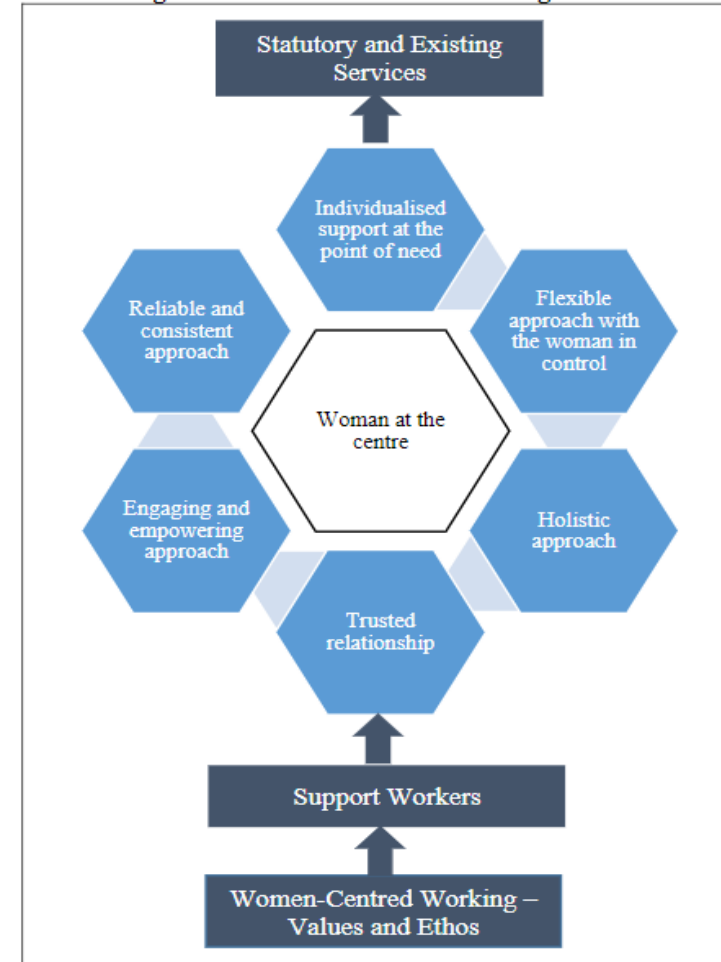
Being able to connect with others in a safe supportive and non-judgemental environment,

Flexibility of delivery and support

Location of services in the voluntary sector



Figure 1: Women-Centred Working Model



Our reflections on challenges....



- The transformation of women's lives happens in spaces that encompass the ideals represented by the six themes.
- Holistic, flexible and relational third-sector support is vital to improving health and well-being outcomes for vulnerable and disadvantaged young women and girls with complex needs. Statutory services do not compare.
- Gender-specific services should be underpinned by supportive policy and sustainable, longer-term, core funding, but they are not!
- Funding-driven partnerships can lead to improved service delivery but are incredibly challenging (and anti-feminist?)
- Some interventions can be anti-feminist - neo-liberal imperatives to encourage conformity are measures of 'success'



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Thank you.

Any questions?

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