

Critical Moments in the Transformation of Occupational Therapy Practice

Dr Ellen Nicholson, Professor Clare Hocking & Professor Marion Jones
Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

Context

Equally prioritising biological & occupational needs disconnects occupational therapists from the profession's philosophy & contributes to our oppression (Whiteford & Townsend, 2011)

Research Questions

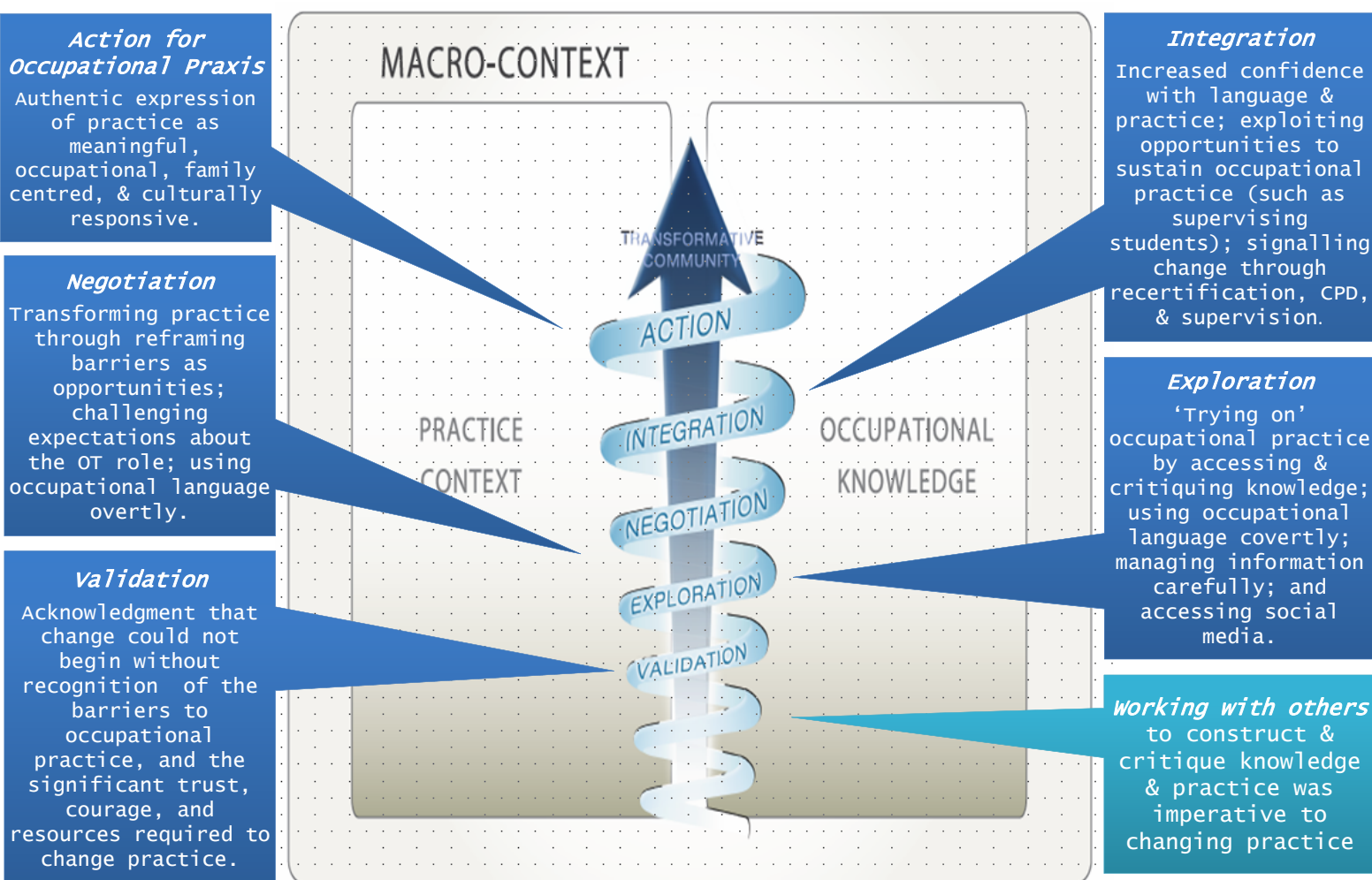
1. How do OTs working with children, young people and families translate 'knowledge' to inform occupational practice?
2. How does participation in the project empower occupational therapists to recognise and address concerns about the legitimacy of 'accepted' (privileged) practices with children & families?

Methodology & Design

- Critical participatory action (add a ref citation)
- Eight co-researchers
- Collective action in a transformative community of practice over 12 months
- Enabling Occupation II (Townsend & Polatajko, 2007) used as a 'map' for meetings & practice change
- Dialogue collected as data; analysis used iterative & reflective methods
- Health & Disability Ethics Committee (#NTX/09/10/092) and AUT Ethics Committee (#10/110) approval

Key Findings: The VENIA Model

- A knowledge-translation model that describes *five critical moments* in practice transformation
- A process for navigating the 'space between' the practice context and a conceptualisation of 'occupational knowledge' as *useful* for occupational practice in context



References:

Nicholson, E. (2013). *Collective action and the transformation of occupational therapy practice*. Unpublished doctoral thesis; Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand.
Rodger, S., Ashburner, J., & Hinder, E. (2012). Sensory interventions for children: Where does our profession stand? (Invited editorial). *Australian Occupational Therapy Journal*, 59, p. 337-338.

Whiteford, G. & Townsend, E. (2011). Participatory occupational justice framework (POJF, 2010): Enabling occupational participation and inclusion. In F. Kronenberg, N. Pollard, & D. Sakellariou (Eds). *Occupational therapy without borders* (2nd ed., pp.65-84). Edinburgh, UK: Elsevier Churchill Livingstone.
And ref added for critical participatory action