

Rehearsing for the Revolution in Nursing: Engaging in the Indigenous Education Blueprint Through Forum Theatre

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Background

- ❖ In December 2015, post-secondary institutions across the province of Manitoba signed the Manitoba Collaborative Indigenous Education Blueprint (MCIEB). The MCIEB is intended to take action on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's (TRC) Calls to Action and identifies key priorities that include integrating Indigenous approaches to learning within the curriculum and reflecting the historical and present context of Indigenous peoples' lives (University of Manitoba, 2015).
- ❖ The successful implementation of these priorities will require all post-secondary disciplines to broaden and deepen their engagement with these priorities. These priorities can be referred to as "difficult knowledge" and to convey this difficult knowledge without re-traumatizing the colonizer-colonized relationship, transformative pedagogies are needed (Cote-Meeks, 2014).
- ❖ Arts-based practices may offer possibilities towards meaningful engagement with the priorities of the MCIEB. In particular, Forum Theatre (FT), a form of participatory theatre, wherein participants have opportunities to critically dialogue, reflect and act has proven effective to help people explore choices (Boal, 1995), and help students and educators rehearse real-life scenarios within a safe space (Brett-MacLean, Yiu, & Farooq, 2012; Dennis, 2009; Ferreira & Devine, 2012; Mitchell & Freitag, 2011).

Purpose of the Study

- ❖ To explore the use of a forum theatre (FT) as a culturally responsive pedagogy for nursing educators and students to engage in the MCIEB.

Research Objectives

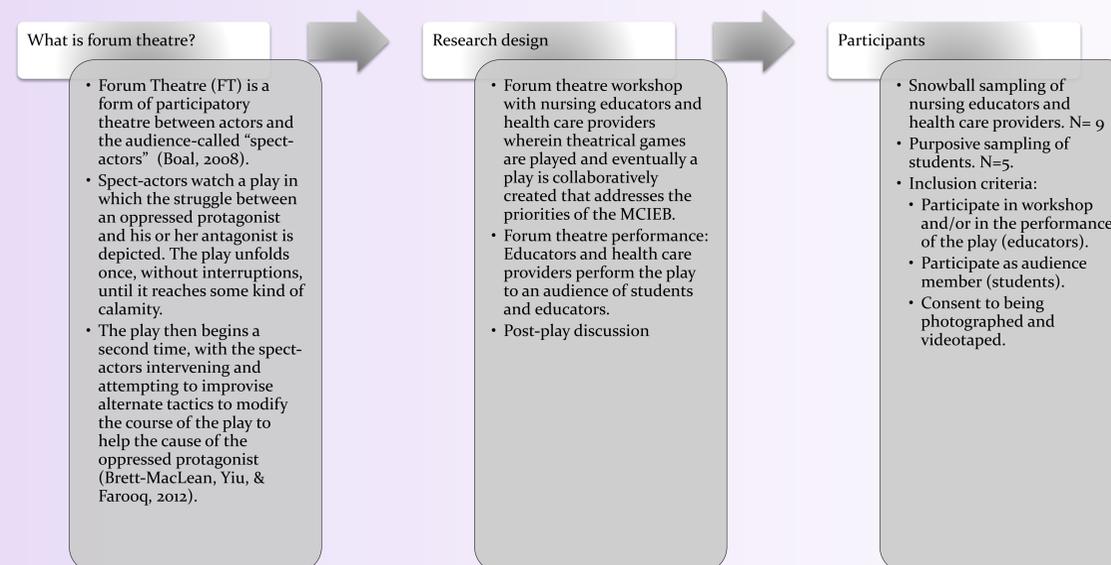
- ❖ To facilitate a dialogue through FT regarding several of the priorities of the MCIEB with nursing educators and students.
- ❖ To explore possibilities for integrating the priorities of the MCIEB within schools of nursing.
- ❖ To explore nursing educators' and students' experiences of FT as a pedagogical approach.



Participatory Arts-based Research Methodology



Research Methods: Forum Theatre



Data Collection

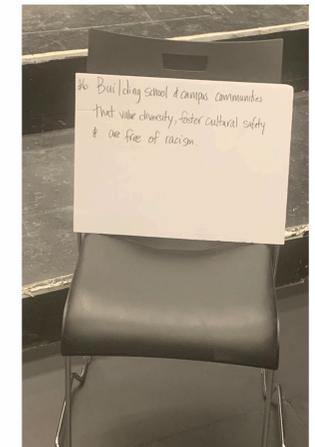
- ❖ Audio-recorded forum theatre workshop and videotaped performance of play, audience interventions and post-play discussion.
- ❖ Script, photographs, and researcher notes.
- ❖ Demographic questionnaire.

Data Analysis

- ❖ Demographic data will be summarized and reported in descriptive statistics;
- ❖ Transcribed workshop and play, along with photographs and notes will be analyzed using form and content analysis.

Implications of the Study

- ❖ This study contributes to advancing reconciliation within nursing education by responding to the Calls to Action of the TRC and the priorities of the MCIEB.
- ❖ This study offers possibilities for further including Indigenous content and lived experience in the nursing curriculum.
- ❖ This study contributes to the knowledge about FT as a nursing pedagogy.



Conclusion

- ❖ This research builds on the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report with regards to education.
- ❖ This research will be of interest to institutions signatory to the MCIEB as well as to nursing educators and administrators to inform program design, policy and practice.
- ❖ This research will also increase our understanding of the barriers to meaningful engagement with the priorities of the MCIEB and the Calls to Action of the TRC.

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