

The Influence of Program Theory-Based Evaluation on the Use of Evaluation Information: A Longitudinal Study



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TOPICS OF THE PRESENTATION



- Introduction- Purpose of the Study
- Program Theory-Based Evaluation
- The Model of Evaluation Information Use
- Research Methods
- Findings of The Study
- Discussion of Findings
- Conclusion

INTRODUCTION



• Three research questions have been used to guide this research

- I. What is the influence of program theory on the use of evaluation information?
- II. Which factors have the greatest impact on the use of evaluation information?
 - I. How do these factors interact with each other to affect use?

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PROGRAM THEORY-BASED EVALUATION



PROGRAM THEORY =

Program causative theory identifies the causal links between the predictor variables which govern a program's application, and its intended effects.

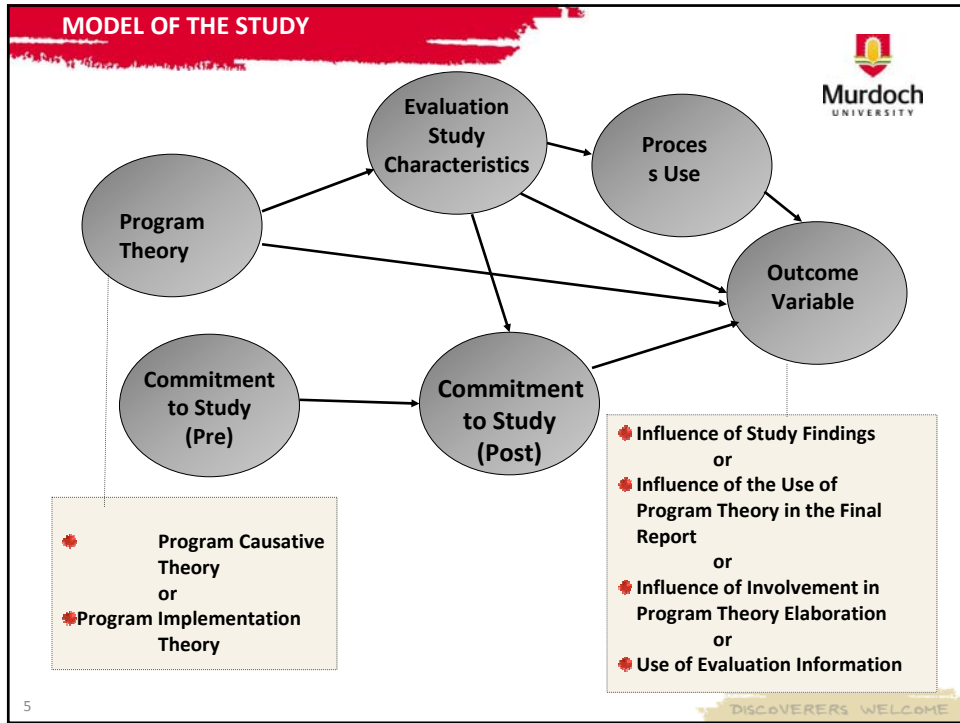


Program Implementation Theory addresses the variables affecting how a program is implemented.

- Although they are interrelated, it is essential to identify and distinguish between these two types of program theory because it clarifies the focus of an evaluation study and analysing both in an evaluation provides a fuller picture.

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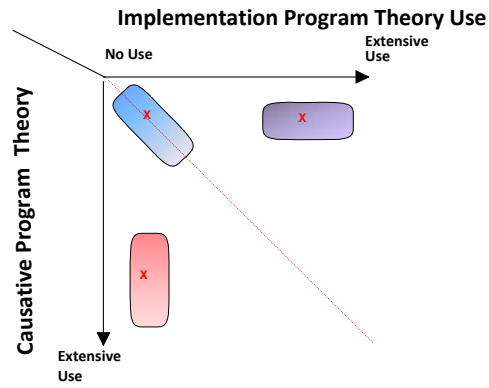
EIGHT VERSIONS OF THE MODEL

Versions Number	Outcome Variable	Latent Program Theory Predictor Variable
1a	Influence of Study Findings	Causative Program Theory
1b	Influence of Study Findings	Implementation Program Theory
2a	Influence of Use of Program Theory in Final Report	Causative Program Theory
2b	Influence of Use of Program Theory in Final Report	Implementation Program Theory
3a	Influence of Involvement in Program Theory Elaboration	Causative Program Theory
3b	Influence of Involvement in Program Theory Elaboration	Implementation Program Theory
4a	Use of Information	Causative Program Theory
4b	Use of Information	Implementation Program Theory

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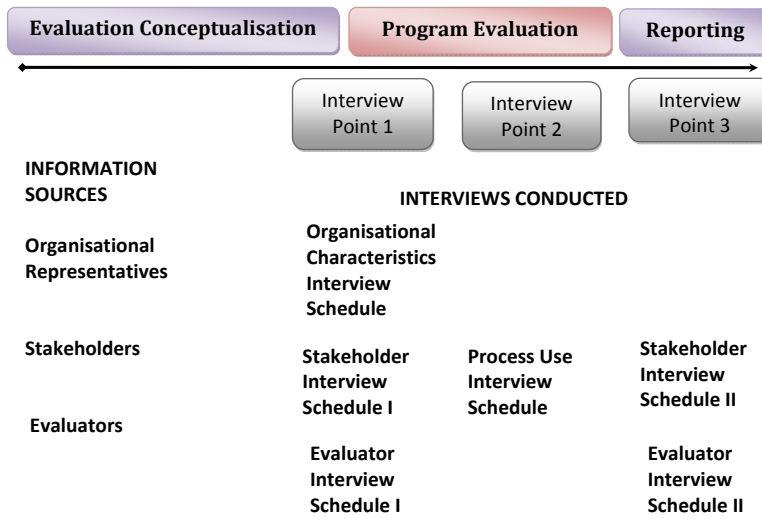
THEORY USE OF EVALUATIONS TARGETED FOR



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STUDY PROCEDURE



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NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED



PROGRAM		Organisational Representatives	Evaluators	Stakeholders	Total
	Pre-Apprenticeship Program	5	2	13	20
	Making Consistent Judgments Program	6	6	12	24
	YohFest Program	5	2	10	17
	Total	16	10	35	61

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GOODNESS OF FIT MEASURES FOR MEASUREMENT

MODEL LATENT VARIABLES



Model	X ²	df	p	CMIN /df ²	RMSEA	TLI
Organisational Learning Environment	6.79	6	0.19	1.13	0.09	0.96
Evaluator Characteristics	2.2	2	0.34	1.09	0.10	0.90
Stakeholder Characteristics	11.5	5	0.04	2.3	0.13	0.62
Evaluation Characteristics	2.2	2	0.34	1.07	0.05	0.98
Use Characteristics	1.37	1	0.24	1.37	0.10	0.98

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FIT INDICES ADOPTED TO DETERMINE MEASUREMENT AND STRUCTURAL MODEL FIT



FIT INDICES	THRESHOLD VALUES USED TO DETERMINE MODEL FIT
χ^2	> 1 but < 3
p	0.10 level of significance
CMIN/df ²	> 1 but < 2
RMSEA	< 0.10
Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)	> 0 but < 1
GFI	> 0 but < 1
AGFI	> 0 but < 1
PGFI	> 0 but < 1
Regression Weights	0.1 level of significance

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GOODNESS OF FIT FOR THE EIGHT CORE MODELS

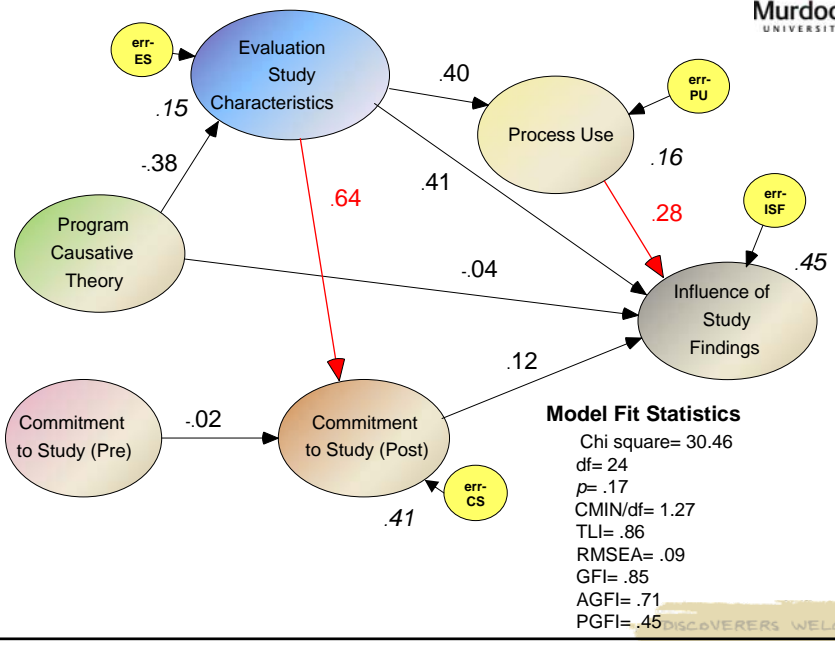


Model	χ^2	DF	P	CMI/df ²	TLI	GFI	AGFI	PGFI	RMSEA
1a	30.46	24	0.17	1.27	0.86	0.85	0.71	0.45	0.09
1b	30.67	24	0.16	1.28	0.86	0.85	0.71	0.45	0.09
2a	33.10	24	0.10	1.38	0.79	0.84	0.69	0.45	0.11
2b	33.44	24	0.10	1.39	0.79	0.83	0.69	0.45	0.11

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STRUCTURAL MODEL 1 A



DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS



✿ The three research questions which were the focus of this investigation are used here to summarise the conclusions of the investigation.

- i. What is the influence of program theory on the use of evaluation information?*
- ii. Which factors have the greatest impact on the use of evaluation information?*
- iii. How do these factors interact with each other to affect use?*

This investigation has was not able to confirm claims by Bickman (1987), Chen (2004), and Weiss (1998) that a more valuable and useful study will result if an evaluation is based on program theory. It does, however, highlight the need for evaluation practice to be subjected to empirical tests to validate the practice.

Good quality empirical research will enable evaluation practitioners to have greater confidence that they are maximising the likelihood the information provided by their evaluations will be used effectively.

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