

Disrupting power dynamics

AES Conference - 18 September 2019

Conceptions of power

"The ability of an individual or group to achieve their own goals or aims when others are trying to prevent them"
(Weber)

"There is no power relation without the correlative constitution of a field of knowledge"
(Foucault)

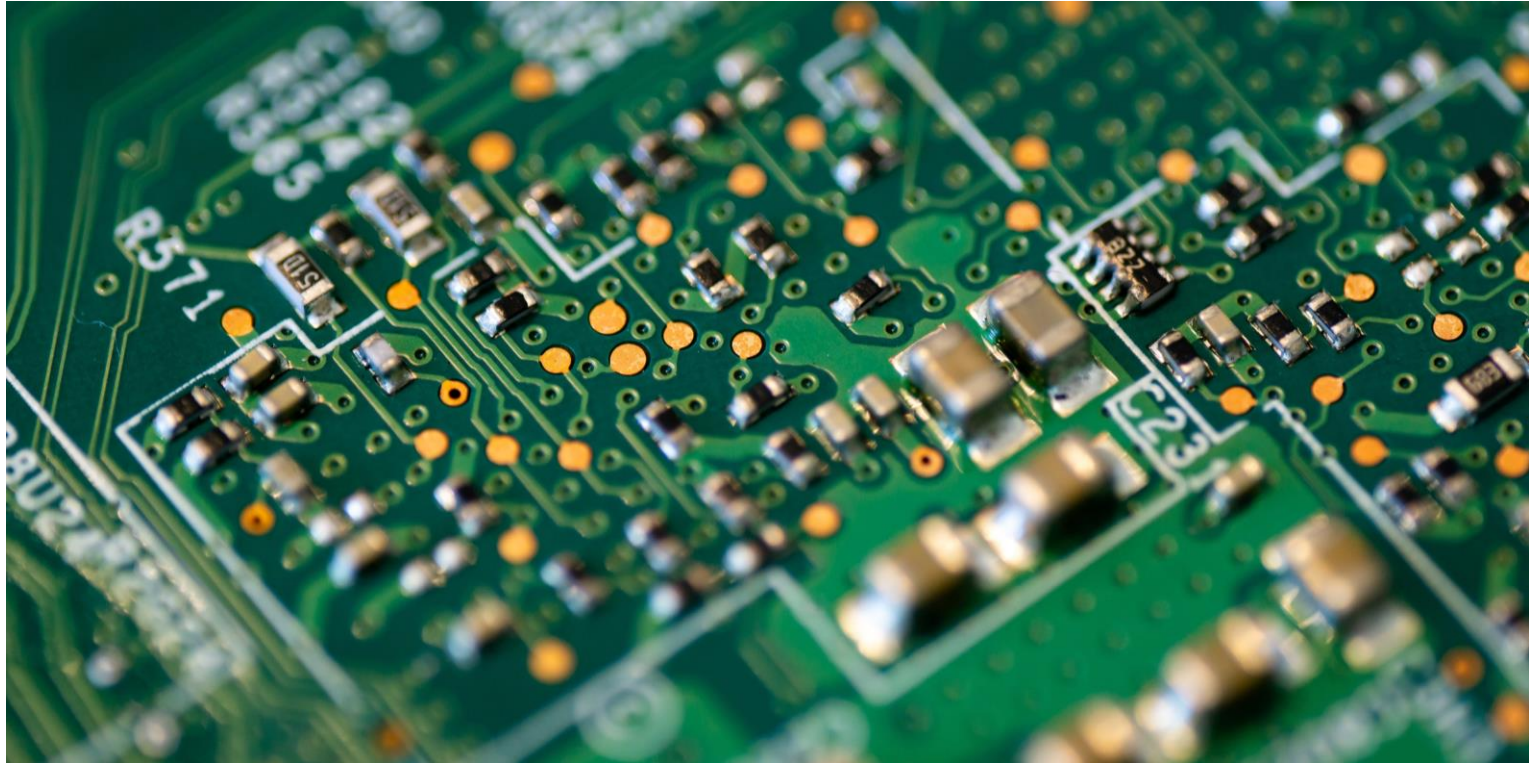
"Political power is capacity to control the relational system as a system"
(Parsons)

Ability to act or produce an effect

Possession of control, authority, or influence over others

(Dictionary)

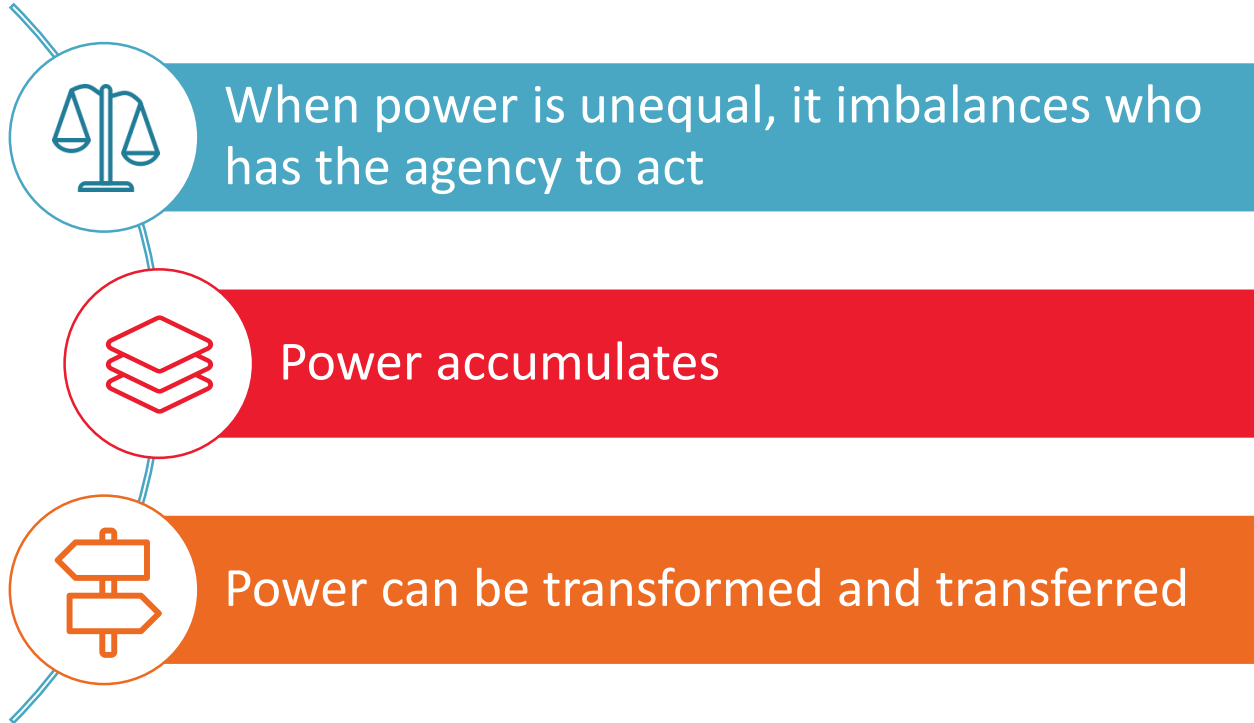
What contributes to a position of power?



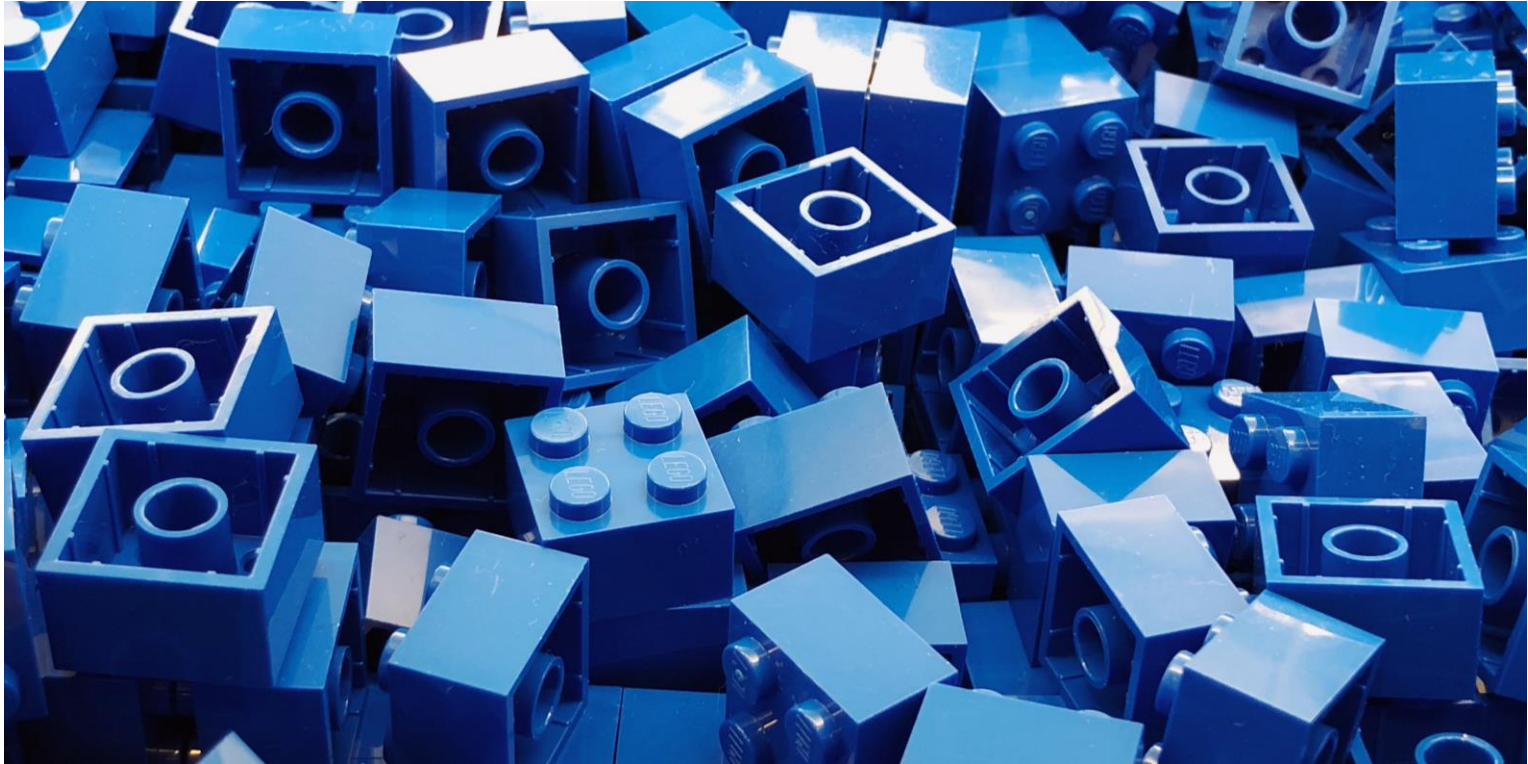
Powerplay



The laws of power



Case example



Talking Together



Talking Together

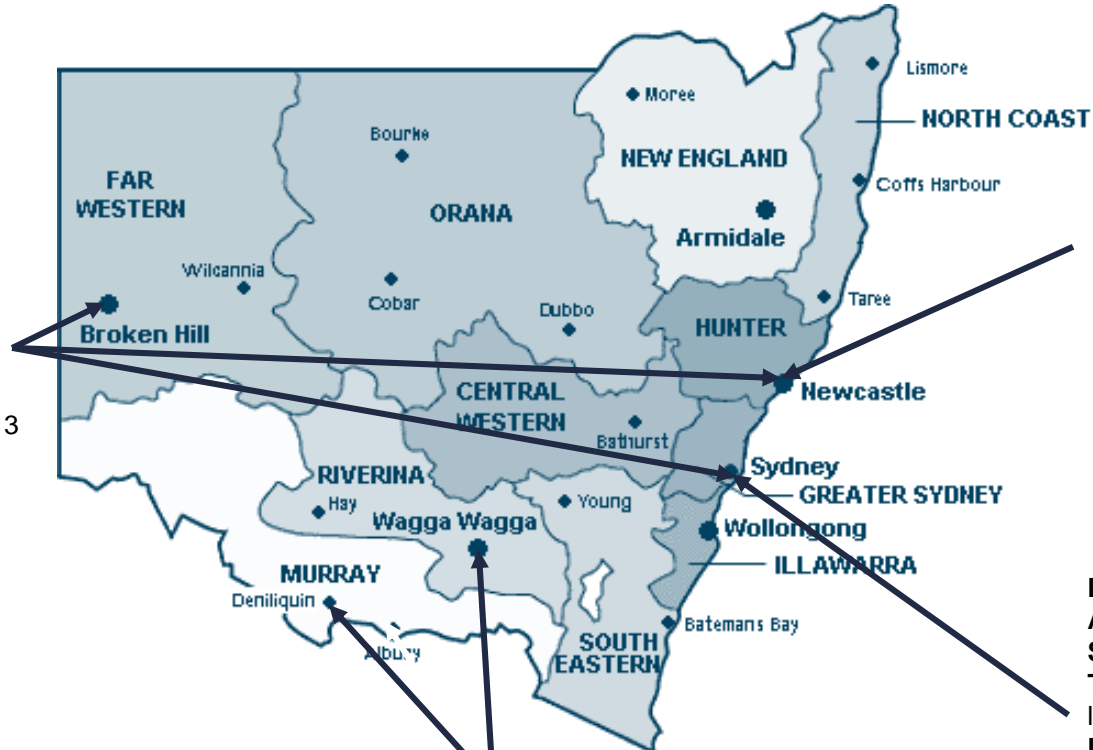
Locations

Being

Target group: psychosocial disability

Location: Sydney metro, Newcastle, Broken Hill

Peer facilitators: Newcastle: 3 (and 1 who dropped out)
Sydney: 2
Broken Hill: 1



Community Disability Alliance Hunter

Target group: Aboriginal

Location: Newcastle and surrounds

Peer facilitators: 2

Diversity and Disability Alliance/ Ethnic Community Services Co-operative

Target group: Culturally and linguistically diverse

Location: Sydney metro

Peer facilitators: 4 (and 2 who dropped out)

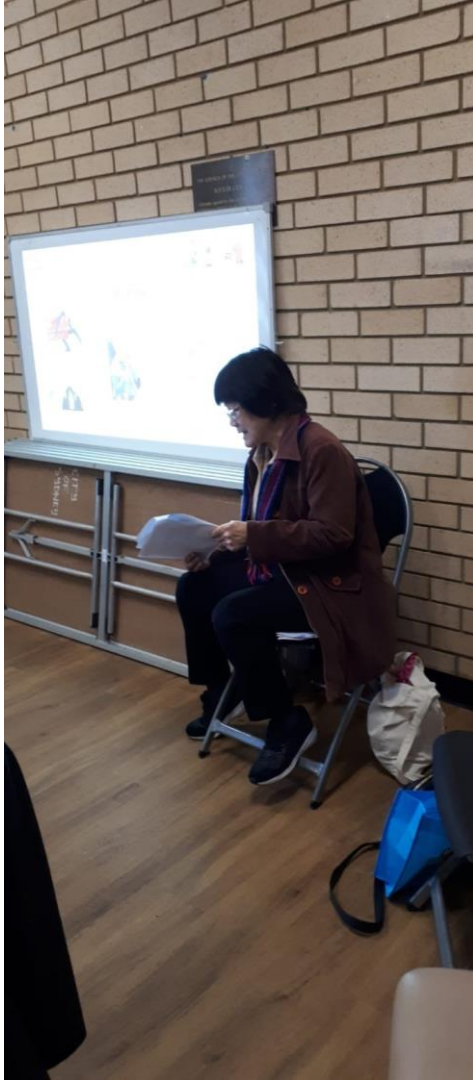
Workshops: 18

Council for Intellectual Disability

Target group: Intellectual disability

Location: Wagga Wagga/ Albury

Peer facilitators: 2



Making co-production work



- Strong relationships between project officers, peer facilitators and Fair Trading co-facilitators on the ground
- Having people with the right attitude
 - People open to listening and learning
 - People open to trying new things
- Having everyone involved from the beginning – time to build trust and get to know each other
- Having regular communication
- Some people liked starting without a structure for the process

Scenario 1



Designing the evaluation: a workshop

Roles

- Evaluation team (n=2)
- Staff (n=8)

Scenario 2



Discussion workshop

Roles

- Evaluation team (n=2)
- Peer researchers (n=3)
- Staff
- Peer facilitators

Sharing power in evaluation

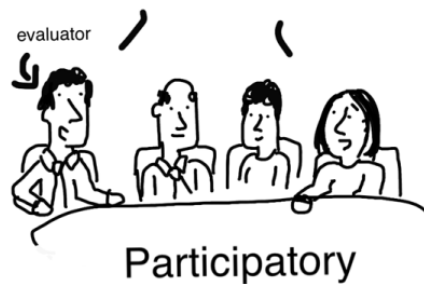


Stakeholder involvement approaches

With your ongoing support
we can make this evaluation
a success.



Working together, we will
make this evaluation a success.



We'll have help, but the success
of the evaluation is in our hands.



Transformative evaluation

“The voices of those who are disenfranchised on the basis of gender, race/ ethnicity, disability, or other characteristics remind us of the issues of power that surround so much of the public sphere, even those supposedly neutral worlds of research and evaluation.” (Mertens)

Question burst



Connect



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