Issues of protection and societal responsibility in nursing research: Theoretical discussion

Professor Julie Taylor (University of Birmingham)
Professor Charlotte Clarke (University of Edinburgh)
Autonomy versus protection
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Example: Sexting
Tensions

• Location of responsibility and risk expertise
• Human rights and citizenship
• Agency and independence
Responsibility and risk expertise

Jimmy Savile as ‘agitprop for believing all abuse allegations’

Allegations of sexual abuse by the former BBC entertainer, Jimmy Savile emerged in a television documentary shown a year after his death in 2011, and provided a massive impetus for a sea change in policing and prosecution policies in response to allegations of historical abuse (now called non-recent abuse) – write Dr Ros Burnett and Mark Smith.
Human rights and citizenship

• ‘Staying Safe, Going Out’ Enacted Narrative Research (Alzheimer’s Society funded studentship – Katie Gambier-Ross)

• “The right to roam”
• The right to decide
• The right to (human) rights
• The right to be protected
Agency and independence

- Perceptions of vulnerability invites intervention by ‘others’
- Being rendered a ‘subject’ of society
- Location of responsibility for risk management
- Being a citizen & doing citizenship
Risk expertise

- Who assumes or relinquishes responsibility for the balance of protecting safety and promoting autonomy?
  - Self-management
  - Non-compliance
  - Disguised compliance
Take home messages

• Complex dilemmas bound in societal views of vulnerable people
• Multiple perspectives
• How are we listening to user voices?
• Our views on risk can clash
References


