Monash Doctoral Information Day

Research in Action
Doctoral Research in Indonesian Communities

Chair: Professor Sue McKemmish
Panel Members: Dr Misita Anwar & Dr Danny Ardianto

Faculty of Information Technology
Overview

Introduction

▪ What is community-centred research?
  *The Impact of Mobile Phones on the Well-being of Micro-entrepreneurs in Indonesia*
  *Growing Food in the City: Using Social Media to Promote Pro-Environmental Behaviour*

▪ What are the challenges … and the rewards?

▪ How to build trusted relationships with communities?

▪ What methods are used in community research?

▪ How can research in action address both community needs and research goals?
‘The concept of community … can refer broadly to groups which form around shared beliefs, values, experiences, and interests and come to have a shared sense of identity. Communities may have social, cultural, political, economic, religious, class, gender, sexual orientation, racial, familial or geographical dimensions.’

Different types of community
The impact of mobile phones on the well-being of micro-entrepreneurs in Indonesia

Dr Misita Anwar

The research proposes a more holistic approach to assessing the impact of ICT on development. It evaluates the impact of mobile phones on the well-being of micro-entrepreneurs from human development perspectives.

*How do mobile phones enhance individuals and their collective capabilities in families or communities to better achieve the lifestyle which they aspire to?*
Growing Food in the City: Using Social Media to Promote Pro-Environmental Behaviour

A study with Indonesia Berkebun, a large urban farming community, which has used social media extensively to promote food growing in the city as a response to food security.

Identified technocultural experience which drives participants to engage in pro-environmental behaviour.

Dr Danny Ardianto
What are the challenges ... and the rewards?
What are **the challenges** ... and the rewards?

- Ethical challenges
- Conflict of interest
- Cultural sensitivity
- Goal alignment
- Availability
- Access
- Participation
- Informal structure
- Communication
- Safety
What are the challenges ... and the rewards?

Boedi Oetomo, credited for the country’s awakening of nationalist-movement, was a community organisation.

Many of today’s changes and improvements (in politics, social, law, business, etc.) are contributed by communities.
How to build trusted relationships with communities?

- Honesty
- Respect
- Cultural understanding (e.g. etiquette, protocols)
- Mutual benefit
What methods are used in community research?

Empirical focus:
- Quantitative
- Qualitative
- Mixed methods
- Case study

Action focus:
- Action research
- Participatory action research
- Participatory co-design of research and systems
How can research in action address both community needs and research goals?
Research collaboration with communities!

- Understand the needs and goals of the community
- Create exciting and beneficial projects for the community
- Establish the most suitable research approach
- Always look for potential innovation
  - For knowledge (new theories, understanding)
  - For the community (improved practice)
- Involve the community members in positive ways in all stages of designing and doing the research
- Share the reports/publications with them
- Celebrate the achievements with them!
Terima Kasih

Questions?