

Participatory Action Research

Overall this volume should be valuable for readers. demonstrates the practical and theoretical advantages of incorporating participatory action research in the social science tool kit. --Agricultural Systems "I recommend this book for researchers, and I also suggest that it be considered seriously by persons grappling with philosophy of social issues." --Journal of Marketing Research "We have a book that deals with a potential revolution in the way organization science is done. The last third of the book, dealing with PAR in agriculture, is of great value. This is a formidable challenge for any of us to take on, but many useful and practical tips are scattered throughout the book, in chapters appropriately written by academics, managers, a union leader, and government administrators. Thus, the message of PAR is embodied in the structure of the book. It is a message we should heed." --Journal of Management "Provides a rich set of insights into the intricacies and challenges encountered in research in applied settings with an agenda toward action." --International Journal of Nursing Studies Participatory Action Research (PAR) is a powerful research tool that unites the work of researcher and client to improve both the topic researched and the research findings themselves. Yet, despite the fact that various forms of PAR have been practiced for decades, no single resource existed that detailed this practical research method. Now, in Participatory Action Research, a distinguished team of contributors takes you step-by-step through this research technique, from the initial design of a project, through data gathering and analysis, to final conclusions and actions arising out of the research. Contributors thoroughly outline the theory and methods behind PAR, weigh its strengths and weaknesses, then present a series of case studies taken both from organizational and agricultural settings. Organizational researchers and consultants, managers, sociologists, or anyone engaged in qualitative or applied research will find Participatory Action Research an invaluable tool.

Through a rejection of the traditional separation between the researcher and the research setting, this volume discusses a philosophy in which the researcher is fully involved in the process of organizational learning and change. William Foote Whyte and his collaborators outline the theory and methods behind participatory action research, weigh up its strengths and weaknesses and then present cases where this research strategy has been used in both industry and agriculture from a variety of countries on four continents.



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