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OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY FROM AN INTERCULTURAL PERSPECTIVE: REFLECTIONS FROM DOUBLE REFLEXIVE ETHNOGRAPHY

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INTRODUCTION

Global world



Occupational Therapy challenges

- Enable people from all streams of life, to engage and to participate in valued occupations **in their daily life** (Iwama, 2011)
- Establish an occupational therapy from an intercultural perspective- Multicultural contexts (Zango, 2013)
- Analyse construction and consolidation of knowledge in occupational therapy (Hammell, 2009, 2011)

INTRODUCTION

- Culture-Absolute truths applicable to any human experience (Ibanez, 2001).
- To be aware that the misunderstanding in health care intervention are mostly not related with client's culture, but rather those of the occupational therapist (Hammell, 2009, 2011).
- Reflexivity about the construction and consolidation of knowledge and its repercussions on occupational therapist's professional practice within the multicultural contexts (Rudman and Denhart, 2008).



AIM



To critical analyse occupational therapy theory and practice taking account perspectives from different contexts.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Double Reflexive Ethnography



Semantic dimensions	Pragmatic dimensions	Syntactic dimension
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Focused on the actor- To identify discourses collected through ethnographic interviews from an <i>emic</i> perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Focused on the modes of interaction.- To study praxis through participant observation from an <i>etic</i> perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Focused on institutions- To analyse social structures through intercultural forum/workshops from an <i>emic/etic</i> perspective

MATERIAL AND METHODS



RESULTS

Semantic dimension analysis

- “Excuse me lady, do you think your occupational therapy makes sense here?” (Honduras, 2004)

Pragmatic dimension analysis

- “They will explain what I need better than me” (Burkina Faso, 2009)

Syntactic dimension analysis

- “My little girl, they are mountain wawas (children), that’s why they don’t play” (Ecuador, 2011)

CONCLUSIONS

Therefore, occupational therapists, as other professional cultures, need:

- To involve different perspectives in the process of knowledge construction. Co-reflection.
- To articulate an occupational therapy culture that recognizes different occupational therapy practices.

CONCLUSIONS

- Occupational therapy not colonizing and not colonized:
 - *Not colonizing occupational therapy, which does not impose its perspectives ignoring other cosmologies*
 - *Not colonized occupational therapy, that it will articulate his professional culture with an identity itself*

CONCLUSIONS

Occupational therapy intervention should be *a bridge to the social transformation* taking account the practical experience in diverse cultural context.



APPLICATION FOR PRACTICE



- We suggest in intercultural approach the term *ethnoccupation* as an alternative to the ethnocentric concept of occupation.
- We need to consider a view of occupation in relation to economic, social and political aspects.
- We suggest to develop a narrative based occupational therapy.

THANKS FOR YOUR TIME!!

Responsibility emerges in dreams...When you share your dream you share your responsibility.

We will continue dreaming to improve the occupational health without ignoring the perspectives of people around this great diversity world.

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