

EDUC 6620 Collaborative Action Research

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My experience with the collaborative action research assignment was confusing. In the beginning I had a very difficult time deciding what exactly I wanted to research that had not already been researched in the field of education. As a result of this I chose a topic of which I really had no interest in researching. I do not think this assignment made me a better teacher, reflective practitioner, or instructional leader. The one advantage that I did find in the assignment was just experience the mundane process of educational research. I only say this because educational research contains so many variables that it makes it difficult to prove that any one factor had a direct impact. I have learned that people, environments, and subject content contain too many variables to walk away from this assignment with definite answers. If educational research was so systematic then education would be a science and no changes or reflections would need to be made. We know that that is not the case so I view this collaborative action research as an assignment that educators must do in order to reflect and appreciate educational processes.

I assume that the more research is done the better the outcome. So everyone needs more research to be done. It seems like it is a never ending task. When research becomes unnecessary then education has become a science. I do not feel educational research will ever stop or really ever find something that works for everyone since education involves dynamic people who will always change and require different needs.

I do not think I will ever use this collaborative action research process again unless I was required to. In fact if I reflect on my peers I do not know one teacher who does use this process when not required. I do not feel this process brings results good enough to act on directly. I feel that daily reflection and self reflection give much better results. When educators are aware, care, adjust their teaching process, and know their content they will be successful and effective teachers. Formal collaborative action research is best left to book authors in my opinion.

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