Evaluation Failures: 22 Tales of Mistakes Made and Lessons Learned

Description

Tweet

Edited by: Kylie Hutchinson a?? Community Solutions, Vancouver, Canada. 2018 Published by Sage. https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/evaluation-failures/book260109

But \$30 for 184-page paperback is going to limit its appeal! The electronic version is similarly expensive, more like the cost of a hardback. Fortunately, two example chapters (1 and 8) are available as free pdfs, see below. Reading those two chapters makes me think the rest of the book would also be well worthwhile reading. It is not ofter you see anything written at length about evaluation failures. Perhaps we should set up an online-confessional, where we can line up to anonymously confess our un/professional sins. I will certainly be one of those needing to join such a queue!:)

PART I. MANAGE THE EVALUATION

Chapter 1. Itâ??s Not Me, Itâ??s You: The Value of Addressing Conflict Head On

Chapter 2. The Scope Creep Train Wreck: How Responsive Evaluation Can Go Off the Rails

Chapter 3. The Buffalo Jump: Lessons After the Fall

Chapter 4. Evaluator Self-Evaluation: When Self-Flagellation Is Not Enough

PART II. ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS

Chapter 5. That Alien Feeling: Engaging All Stakeholders in the Universe

Chapter 6. Seeds of Failure: How the Evaluation of a West African

Chapter 7. I Didnâ??t Know I Would Be a Tightrope Walker Someday: Balancing Evaluator Responsiveness and Independence

Chapter 8. When National Pride Is Beyond Facts: Navigating Conflicting Stakeholder Requirements

PART III. BUILD EVALUATION CAPACITY

Chapter 9. Stars in Our Eyes: What Happens When Things Are Too Good to Be True

PART IV. DESCRIBE THE PROGRAM

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Chapter 11. Lost Without You: A Lesson in System Mapping and Engaging Stakeholders

PART V. FOCUS THE EVALUATION DESIGN

Chapter 12. You Got to Know When to Hold â??Em: An Evaluation That Went From Bad to Worse

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PART VI. GATHER CREDIBLE EVIDENCE

Chapter 14. The Best Laid Plans of Mice and Evaluators: Dealing With Data Collection Surprises in the Field

Chapter 15. Are You My Amigo, or My Chero? The Importance of Cultural Competence in Data Collection and Evaluation

Chapter 16. OMG, Why Canâ??t We Get the Data? A Lesson in Managing Evaluation Expectations

Chapter 17. No, Actually, This Project Has to Stop Now: Learning When to Pull the Plug

Chapter 18. Missing in Action: How Assumptions, Language, History, and Soft Skills Influenced a Cross-Cultural Participatory Evaluation

PART VII. JUSTIFY CONCLUSIONS

Chapter 19. â??This Is Highly Illogicalâ?•: How a Spock Evaluator Learns That Context and Mixed Methods Are Everything

Chapter 20. The Ripple That Became a Splash: The Importance of Context and Why I Now Do Data Parties

Chapter 21. The Voldemort Evaluation: How I Learned to Survive Organizational Dysfunction, Confusion, and Distrust

PART VIII. REPORT AND ENSURE USE

Chapter 22. The Only Way Out Is Through Conclusion

Category

1. Books

Date 08/12/2025 Date Created 29/09/2020 Author admin