

Community-Based Participatory Research

A group of five diverse women are seated around a white table in a workshop setting. They are engaged in a discussion, with some looking at documents and others looking towards each other. The room has large windows in the background, and the overall atmosphere is collaborative and focused.

Workshop sponsored by the Division of Women & Crime
San Francisco, November 2019

Agenda

Introduction to community-based participatory research (CBPR)

CBPR and feminist criminology traditions

Forming equitable and effective CBPR partnerships

Practical & ethical considerations for CBPR with justice-involved populations

Discussion: Obstacles and opportunities for CBPR

CBPR “is built on a foundation of social justice and empowerment.” Both feminist theory and community organizing “recognize that empowerment of the oppressed can result in community action for social change.”¹

CBPR:

- 1) acknowledges community as a unit of identity.
- 2) builds on strengths and resources within the community.
- 3) facilitates a collaborative, equitable partnership in all phases of research, involving a power-sharing process that attends to social inequalities.

Table 1.2 Differences Between Traditional Research and Community-Engaged Research

<i>Traditional research approach</i>	<i>Community-Engaged Research</i>	
	<i>Research with the community</i>	<i>Community-based participatory research approach</i>
Researcher defines problem	Research IN the community or WITH the community	Community identifies problem or works with researcher to identify the problem
Research IN or ON the community	Research WITH community as partner	Research WITH community as full partner
People as subjects	People as participants	People as participants and collaborators
Community organizations may assist	Community organizations may help recruit participants and serve on advisory board	Community organizations are partners with researchers
Researchers gain skills and knowledge	Researchers gain skills and knowledge, some awareness of helping community develop skills	Researcher and community work together to help build community capacity
Researchers control process, resources, and data interpretation	Researchers control research; community representatives may help make minor decisions	Researcher and community share control equally
Researchers own data and control use and dissemination	Researchers own the data and decide how they will be used and disseminated	Data are shared, researchers and community decide how they will be used and disseminated

Source: From "Practicing Community Engaged Research," © 2007 by Mary Anne McDonald, MA, DrPH. Duke Center for Community Research, Dept of Community and Family Medicine, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC 27710. Adapted from Community Campus Partnerships for Health on-line curriculum: Developing and Sustaining Community-Based Participatory Research Partnerships: A Skill Building Curriculum (<http://www.ccpb.info/>)

Traditional research

VS.

Research in the community

VS.

Community-based participatory research

Strengths

Relevance to local community
(authenticity)

Community ownership

Builds local capacity and skills
(community and researcher)

Builds trust and bridges community-
academic barriers

Deepens interpretation of results

Supports social action and sustainable
changes

Strengths

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Limitations

Time needed to form partnerships

Potential loss of control

May not be generalizable, may impact
method choice

Requires flexibility

Time frames for reporting results may differ

Conflict between partners on strategies,
decisions, dissemination

May not be valued in academic environment

CBPR and Feminist Criminology

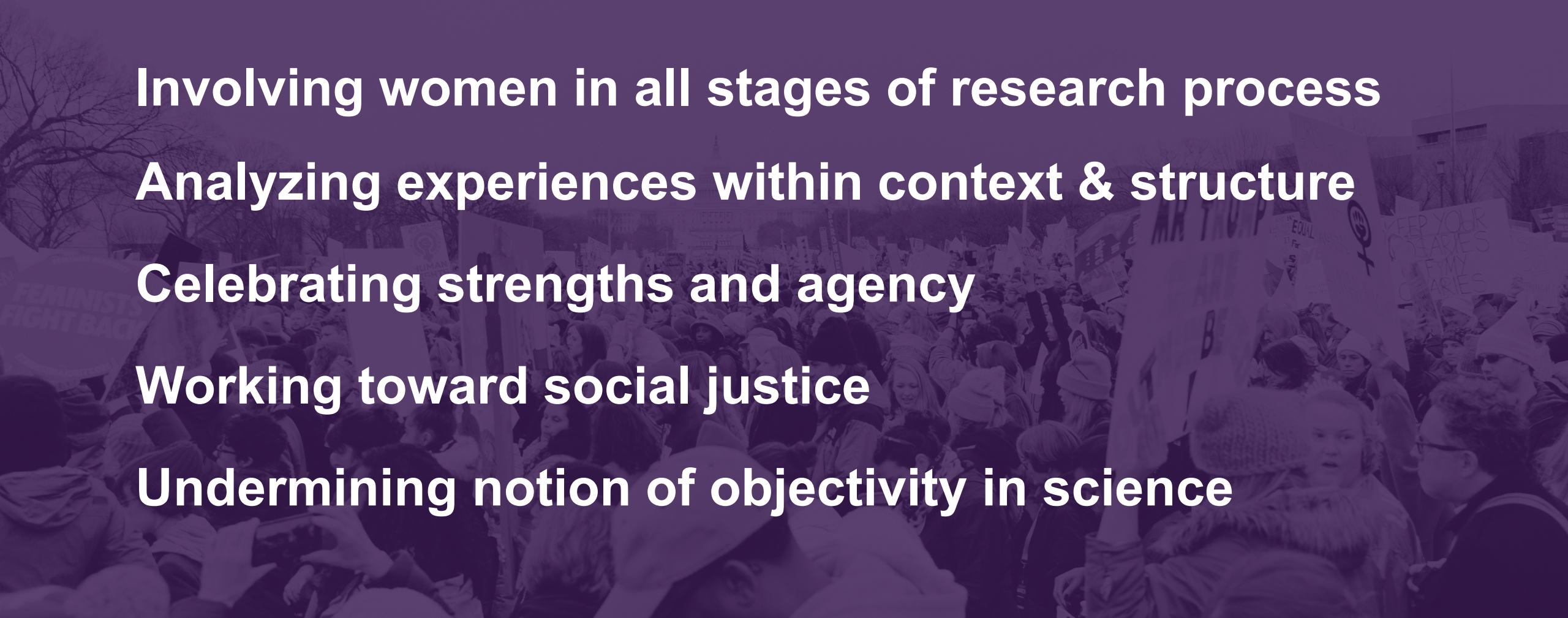
Involving women in all stages of research process

Analyzing experiences within context & structure

Celebrating strengths and agency

Working toward social justice

Undermining notion of objectivity in science



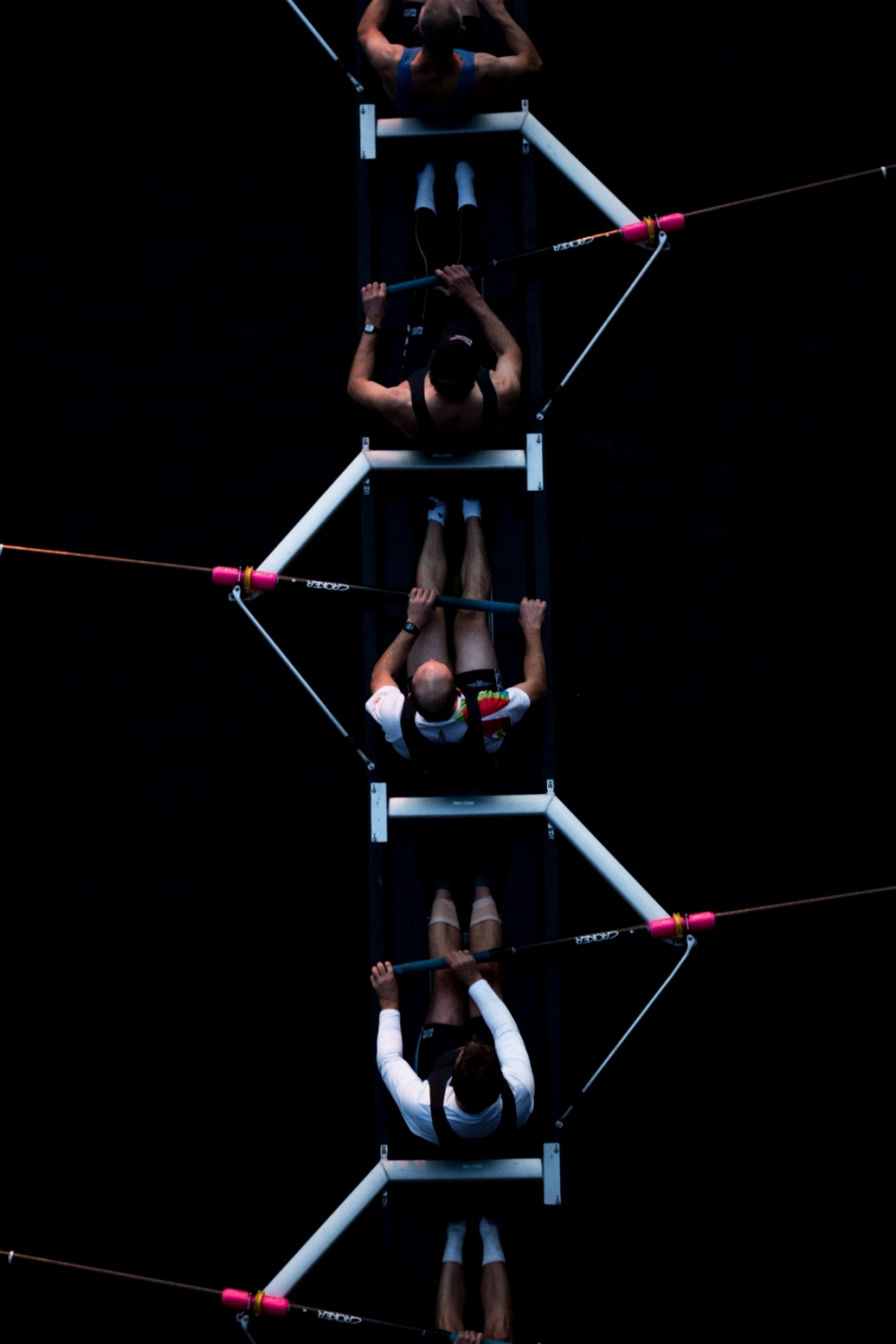
CBPR and Equitable Partnerships

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Asset mapping to identify strengths and opportunities



**Partnership
agreements as
a process and
a product**

Ethical issues in CBPR with justice-involved populations

Participation as voluntary

Confidentiality

Greater risk to participants





Practical issues in CBPR with justice- involved populations

Access to population

True collaboration

Projects can be disruptive

Group Discussion

Funding?

Publishing?

Balancing “productivity” demands and expected research products?

Perceptions of rigor, validity, “objectivity”?