INTEGRATING COMMUNITY
PSYCHOLOGY INTO
EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

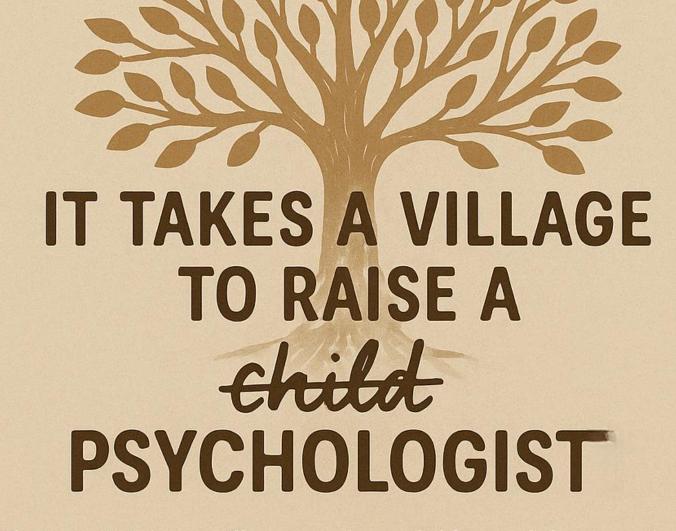
Dr Jawad Shah

PEP- Bury Council

National Officer- AEP

Associate Tutor- UoM

Wandering soul



They say it takes a village to raise a child — and the same is true for raising a psychologist.

As psychologists, we don't have all the answers. We are not distant experts looking in — we are part of the communities we serve. The relationship is symbiotic:

NOT JUST A SEXY NAME FOR TICKING BOXES AS AN EP

Community Psychology aims to understand and promote the well-being of individuals within their social and cultural contexts.

It emphasises the importance of community collaboration, empowerment, and social justice in addressing psychological and social issues.



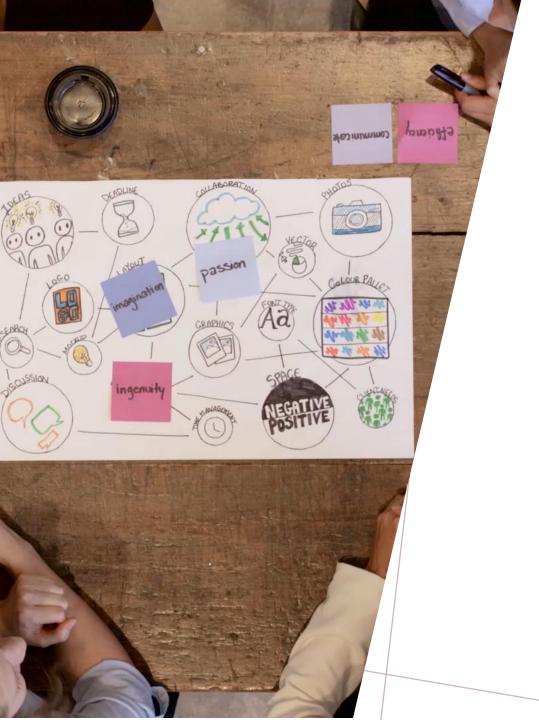
A SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP

As psychologists, we have as much to learn from out communities as we have to give to them.

Immerse ourselves at every level of the community

Decolonise and diversify our thinking beyond rigid frameworks to honour diverse perspectives and experiences





TRADITIONAL ROLE OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

• Current Focus:

- Individual assessments and interventions
- Working within school/ educational settings
- Addressing learning and behavioral issues

• Limitations:

- Reactive rather than proactive
- Limited scope of impact
- Wider dissatisfaction with systems



EXPANDING BEYOND SCHOOLS

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITY
ORGANISATIONS
ENGAGING IN COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH
ADVOCATING FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGES
COLLABORATING WITH LOCAL HEALTH
SERVICES
PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



What's happening in my 'hood?

COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE:

1) INTEGRATION- WORKING IN HUBS
2) HOLISTIC AND SYSTEMIC APPROACHES
3) COLLABORATION WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS
4) SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP
5) TAILORED SERVICES
6) WORKSHOPS/ DROP-INS
7) FEEDBACK MECHANISMS
8) EXPERTS BY EXPERIENCE
9) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:
FAITH GROUPS
LGBTQ+ GROUPS
LOCAL CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS



CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

Challenges:

- Resistance to change
- Limited resources and funding
- Solutions:
 - Advocacy and policy change
 - Leveraging community assets and resources
- Steps to Take:
 - Identify community needs and resources
 - Develop partnerships with community organisations
 - Create and implement community-based programs
 - Evaluate and refine intervention

THANK YOU

Jawad Shah

j.shah@bury.gov.uk



