

*INTEGRATING COMMUNITY
PSYCHOLOGY INTO
EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY*

Dr Jawad Shah

PEP- Bury Council

National Officer- AEP

Associate Tutor- UoM

Wandering soul

**IT TAKES A VILLAGE
TO RAISE A
child
PSYCHOLOGIST**

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 our 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

