



Fathers of Daughters

A Narrative Inquiry into the
Experiences of Migration &
Settlement/Acculturation

Elizabeth Burgess-Pinto

Why?

- Fathers/Fatherhood
- Fathers/Daughters
- Migration

Background

- Past fatherhood research trends focus on child outcomes (Este & Tachble, 2009)
 - Fathers' presence
 - Fathers' roles
 - Father involvement
- Expert discourses tend to pathologize fatherhood (Lupton & Barclay, 1997)
- Need to understand processes and contexts of transitions in fatherhood (Palkowitz, 2008)
- Limited exploration of the impact of immigration on fathers (Koh & Wang, 2009)
- Father identity reaffirmed or challenged through migration (Dyck & Dossa, 2006)

Background...

- Salient issues of newcomer populations - migration & acculturation – process is significant and is described as critical life event, stressful
- Parenting studies influenced by parenting style (Baumrind's typology); focus on control
- Themes
 - Transitions – Disrupted family dynamics, role changes
 - Parenting
 - Fatherhood
 - Adolescence – dissonant acculturation
 - Gender scripts

Guiding Question

- Purpose – to explore the experiences of fathers of daughters during migration and adaptation to a new country.
- Question:
 - How do newcomer fathers story and re-story their relationships with their adolescent daughters during the processes of migration and settlement?

Plan of Inquiry

- **Narrative Inquiry** (Clandinin, 2007; Clandinin & Connelly, 2000)
- **Recruitment of 4 participants – newcomer fathers of adolescent daughters**
 - In Canada 10 years or less
 - Daughter was 12 to 16 years of age at time of migration
- **Data collection via conversation and dialogue**

Approach to Analysis

- Interpretive-analytic process of moving back and forth between field texts, interim research texts, and research texts shaped by questions of meaning and social significance
- Reflective analysis
 - Synthesis of my own and the participants' stories of their experiences will evolve into a co-constructed narrative
 - Highlighting relational orientations of a three-dimensional narrative inquiry space (interaction, continuity, and situation) in four directions (inwards, outwards, backwards, forwards)

Challenges

- Literature Review
- Beginning inquiry with exploration of fathers' experiences
- Standpoint of researcher - researcher/participant – dynamic emerging relationship
 - Trust established through a continuously negotiated relationship throughout the inquiry
- Gender of researcher/interviewer
- Confidentiality & anonymity – boundaries of narrative not clear-cut
 - Ethical imperatives arise from the collaborative, reflective process

Significance for Nursing

- Parenting not well explained in nursing literature (Gage, Everett, Bullock, 2006)
- Nursing studies of fathers focus on transition to parenthood and early childhood
- Need to shed light on cultural, economic, socio-psychological aspects of fatherhood.
- Need to understand and theorize the ontological and socio-cultural meanings of fatherhood

Significance for Nursing...

- Study can inform nursing practice
- Nurses work closely with families – infants, children, adolescents, and their parents
- Nurses who work with individuals and families need theoretical as well as practical understanding of parenting processes that influence health outcomes.
- Analysis of stories (narratives) can capture meanings that can then be used by health care providers to make assessments and provide care (Frank, 1996)

Ellis & Bochner

- ***“The narrative rises or falls on its capacity to provoke readers to broaden their horizons, reflect critically on their own experience, enter empathetically into a world of experience different from their own, and actively engage in dialogue regarding the social and moral implications of the different perspectives and standpoints encountered”***

Ellis, C. & Bochner, A.P. (2000). Autoethnography, personal narrative, and reflexivity: Researcher as subject. In N. Densin, & Y.S. Lincoln (Eds.). *Handbook of qualitative research* (2nd ed.), p.748. Newbury Park, CA: Sage