PRACTITIONERS VS. ACADEMICS

Big “R”, Little “r”. Resilience!
THE PROBLEM

Is there a difference in the definitional understanding of resilience between those in the capacity of Emergency Manager and scholars?

Overused
Ambiguous
Multiple Definitions = Confusion

Survey Question: In your capacity as Emergency Manager, how do you define resilience?
What do we mean by community resilience? (Patel et al., 2017) = 615 publications

57 unique definitions

Resilience ≠ agreed upon definition or framework

DHS, FEMA, HSAC, CARRI, Sendai Framework ≠ same definition of resilience
METHODOLOGY & PARTICIPANTS

• Methodology:
  • Mixed-methods research design
  • Descriptive & interpretive
  • Qualitative & quantitative
  • Survey through Qualtrics (emailed)
    • Likert-type
    • Open-ended

• Participants from Survey
  • Those in capacity of Emergency Management at IHE that received an EMHE grant (n = 10)
  • DRU list-serv (n = 36)

Data from Emergency Managers from Coastal Communities (n = 54) (Dr. Ashley Ross)
QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

Data Input from Survey Responses, collected data, and Scholar Definitions/Frameworks

Data - 47 Concepts (key words)

Practitioners – 6 Categories
- Respond & Recover
- Continuity
- Coping Capacity
- Adaptive Capacity
- Multiple Phases
- Preparedness/Planning

Scholars – 7 Categories
- Respond & Recover
- Continuity
- Coping Capacity
- Adaptive Capacity
- Multiple Phases
- Preparedness/Planning
- Adapt (Strictly)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Practitioners</th>
<th>Scholars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Respond &amp; Recover</td>
<td>37 (39%)</td>
<td>8 (18%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuity</td>
<td>11 (12%)</td>
<td>8 (18%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coping Capacity</td>
<td>19 (20%)</td>
<td>8 (18%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adaptive Capacity</td>
<td>7 (7%)</td>
<td>15 (34%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple Phases (More than 2)</td>
<td>9 (9%)</td>
<td>3 (7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparedness/Planning</td>
<td>13 (14%)</td>
<td>0 (0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapt (strictly)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2 (5%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table: Comparative Analysis of Resilience Definition for Practitioners and Scholars**
CONCLUSIONS

It may be time “to abandon the search for a single, precise, definition of community resilience”. (Patel et al., 2017).

“These discussions… distract … from the actual task… preparing communities to respond and recover” (Usher-Pines, colleagues, 2013)

Twigg states it best… (2007)...
“Resilience is not only a multifarious concept but also an ideal”.
THANK YOU

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