

PARTICIPATING IN INCLUSIVE RESEARCH

- **How it began**
- **Who is involved**
- **How it works**
- **What the benefits are**
- **And our recommendation**





Ger Minogue



Clare Inclusive
Research Group
Founded March 2008





Joe McGrath



Clare Inclusive
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Rob Hopkins



Clare Inclusive
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The start of the Inclusive Research Network

This is the original
Poster advertising
The Inclusive
Research Network
Training
programme

**Inclusive Research Network
3 WORKSHOPS TO GET YOUR
INCLUSIVE RESEARCH HAPPENING
12 SEPTEMBER 2008 –
14 NOVEMBER 2008 - 6 FEBRUARY
2009**

**Learn the skills you need to research
something of importance to you!
- and also useful life skills!**



**Share your ideas with
other researchers.**



**Plan your own
research.**



**Have an 'expert
research buddy'**



**Get the support you
need.**

Who is involved?

- ▶ The Inclusive Research Network is a group of people with intellectual disabilities, from different groups around Ireland, like our own Clare Inclusive Research Group plus their supporters and academic researchers.
- ▶ We did training with the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies and the National Institute for Intellectual Disability at Trinity College.



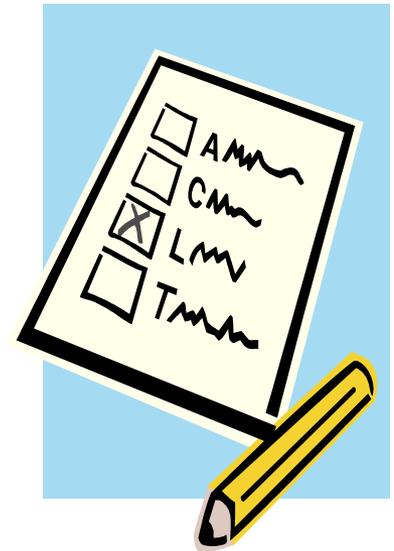


Activity

- Set time
- Meet things
- Agree the purpose
- Plan to do
- Review
- Progress

We practiced Research Skills like...

- ▶ Taking turns in talking and listening and asking questions
- ▶ Thinking up questions to ask in a study
- ▶ Learning about different ways to do research like focus groups, interviews, life stories, doing a survey and using drama in presenting research
- ▶ These have all been ways of deciding together about gathering our research data, what it means and how we can tell people about it



Leaving Home ... a participation research drama



“All We Want To Say 2009”

was the first national inclusive research project conducted in Ireland.



We used the findings to challenge the way people have been treated. We asked for **Choice, Control** and **Support** in key areas of our lives: Employment, Relationships, Money Management, Home Ownership or Renting and Communication Skills

People said that they wanted to become paid employees.

They said they liked:

- Getting well paid
- Getting support to get real jobs
- Friendly staff
- Getting to know the customers
- Making friends



They said they didn't like:

- The low of pay
- Going for lots of interviews and never getting a job
- Feeling that employers don't want disabled people

▶ BECOMING A GOOD COMMUNICATOR

People said they wanted to...

- ▶ Understand and Explain what disability is
- ▶ They wanted to be good listeners
- ▶ Have good communication skills
- ▶ And support to explain things



Ger delivers the
Keynote address in Tel Aviv

This research led to two further studies–

- ▶ “Where we Live” and
- ▶ “The Relationships and Supports Study”



Where we Live Survey



The Where we Live Survey found out

In many cases people do not choose

- Where they live or
- Who they live with

Also...

- More people would like the chance to live independently
- The attitude of some family members needs to be challenged to encourage people to live more independently





- ▶ The Relationships and Supports Study also talked about attitudes to people with a learning disability.
- ▶ One reason people found it hard to have relationships was they felt they were being treated like children.
- ▶ “Maybe people have different attitudes to other people that have a disability. ... You’re kind of looked down on. You’re kind of treated like children”.

One of the uses
of inclusive
research is...

We can Challenge Laws!

- ▶ Through our research we know that the Irish Sexual Offences Law (1993) is against the *United Nations Convention (2006) on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*.



We were invited to consult with the Law Reform Commission in March this year to explain about our research and put forward our objections.

We were delighted to learn this week the Commissioner is recommending that this law should now be repealed.



Doing research has made us aware of the Rights of People with a Disability.

What does the Convention say about people participating in decision making?



Article 4.3 says “...States Parties shall closely consult with, and actively involve, persons with disabilities including Children... through their representative organizations”

In Ireland we do not have any representative organisations

We believe there is an urgent need to set up an Independent, research-backed National Advocacy Forum

Through doing research with our Clare group and with the Network we have shown we can challenge and change things.

Ger: Doing research has given me the chance to communicate what people who have learning disabilities want from their lives.

Joe: And I have realised I can actively change the environment where I live and make a real difference

Thanks for listening
Slán Go Foil

