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Title of Abstract

Researching play from a Playwork perspective

Dr. Pete King, Swansea University, Wales

Brief Abstract

During the last 20 years, the growing profession of Playwork has resulted in a small growing number of playwork practitioners studying and gaining their PhD qualification. Has being a playwork practitioner have an influence on how we research?

This presentation will outline the different methodological approaches of 7 ex-playworkers and their reflections on being a playworker and undertaking their PhD research. The results identified four interconnecting themes: process; playfulness; critical reflection and rights-based. These four factors will be discussed in relation to practice and research and has implications for other practitioners (including teachers) wishing to undertake research on play.