



THE BREADTH OF EVALUATION PRACTICE TODAY

Influences, Arenas, & Disciplines

Jody Fitzpatrick
AEA 2013

Evaluation NEEDS ASSESSMENT

We need a **description** of what is happening
an intervention for correction
empirically-based theories

Evaluation NEEDS ASSESSMENT

“ We need to move beyond the relatively weak theoretical musings and anecdotal reports of practice. We need to add to the **empirical knowledge base**...to extend our theories and guides on practice. ”



Evaluation NEEDS ASSESSMENT

“ There are **telling gaps** in our collective understanding of evaluation practitioners...”

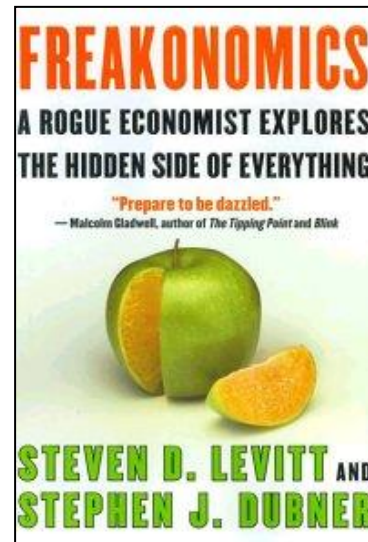


Context of EVALUATION TODAY

Public interest in
numbers
facts &
truth
accountability
impact



PolitiFact.com



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why so many and
predictions fail—
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What Is HAPPENING in Evaluation Today?

NOT as much as we think

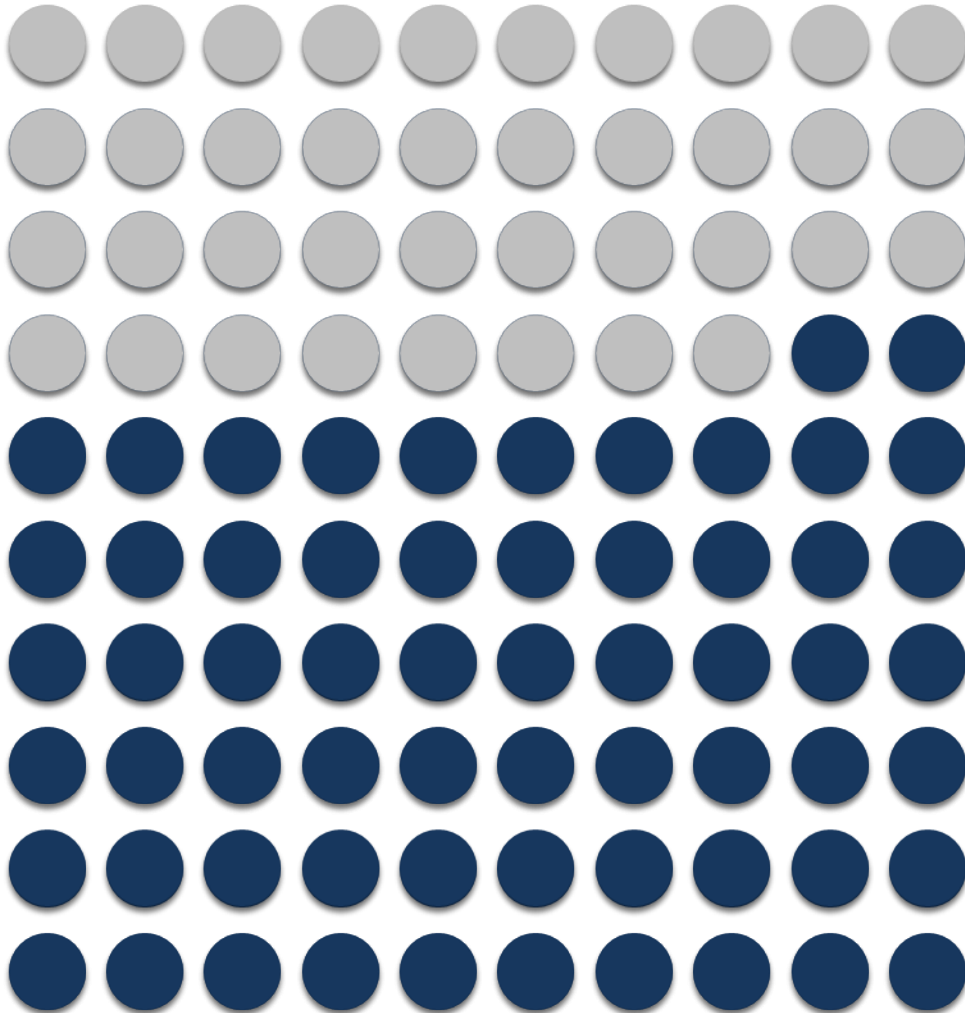
37%

of federal managers
report an evaluation

90%

of nonprofits
report a basic evaluation

WHO Does the Evaluation?



80%

nonprofit eval
done by
nonprofessional

BETTER News

NONPROFIT
version

1

out

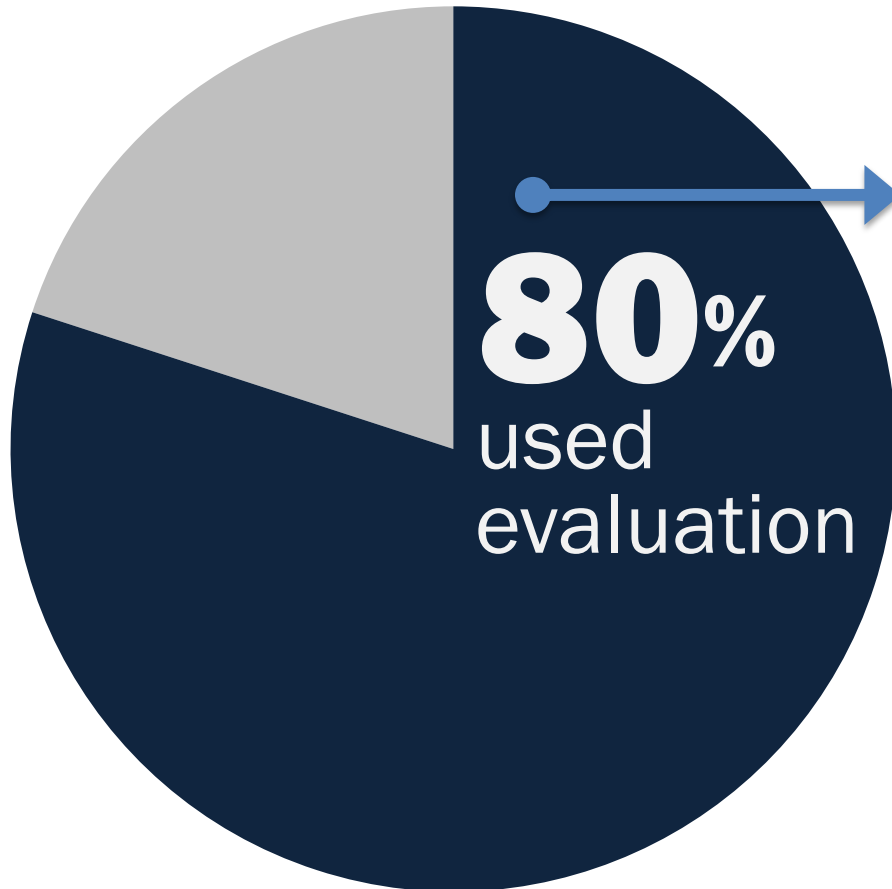
of

4

worked with an external evaluator
and liked it!

BETTER News

FEDERAL
version



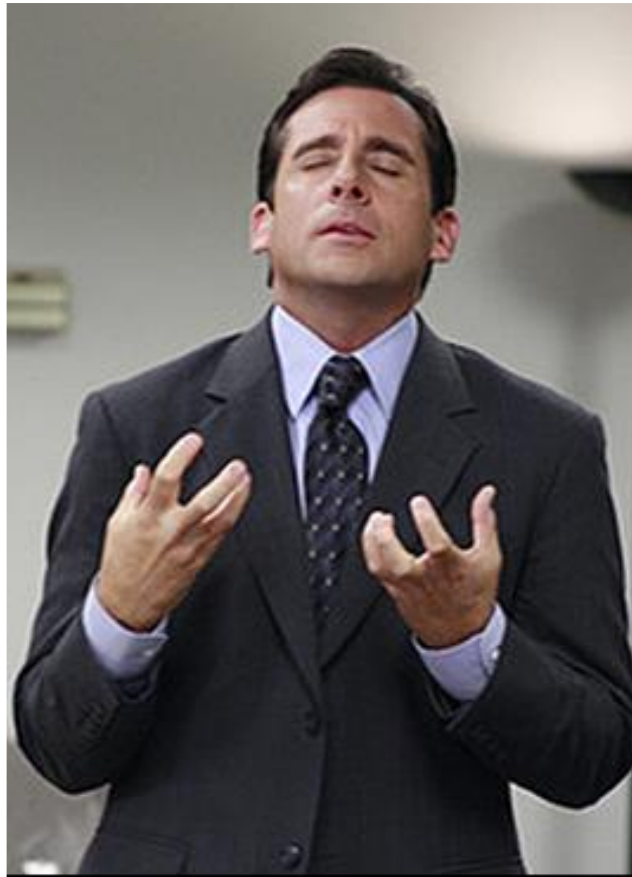
& made program
changes to improve
performance

WHO ARE Evaluators Today?



OTHERS doing evaluation

managers



**social science
researchers**



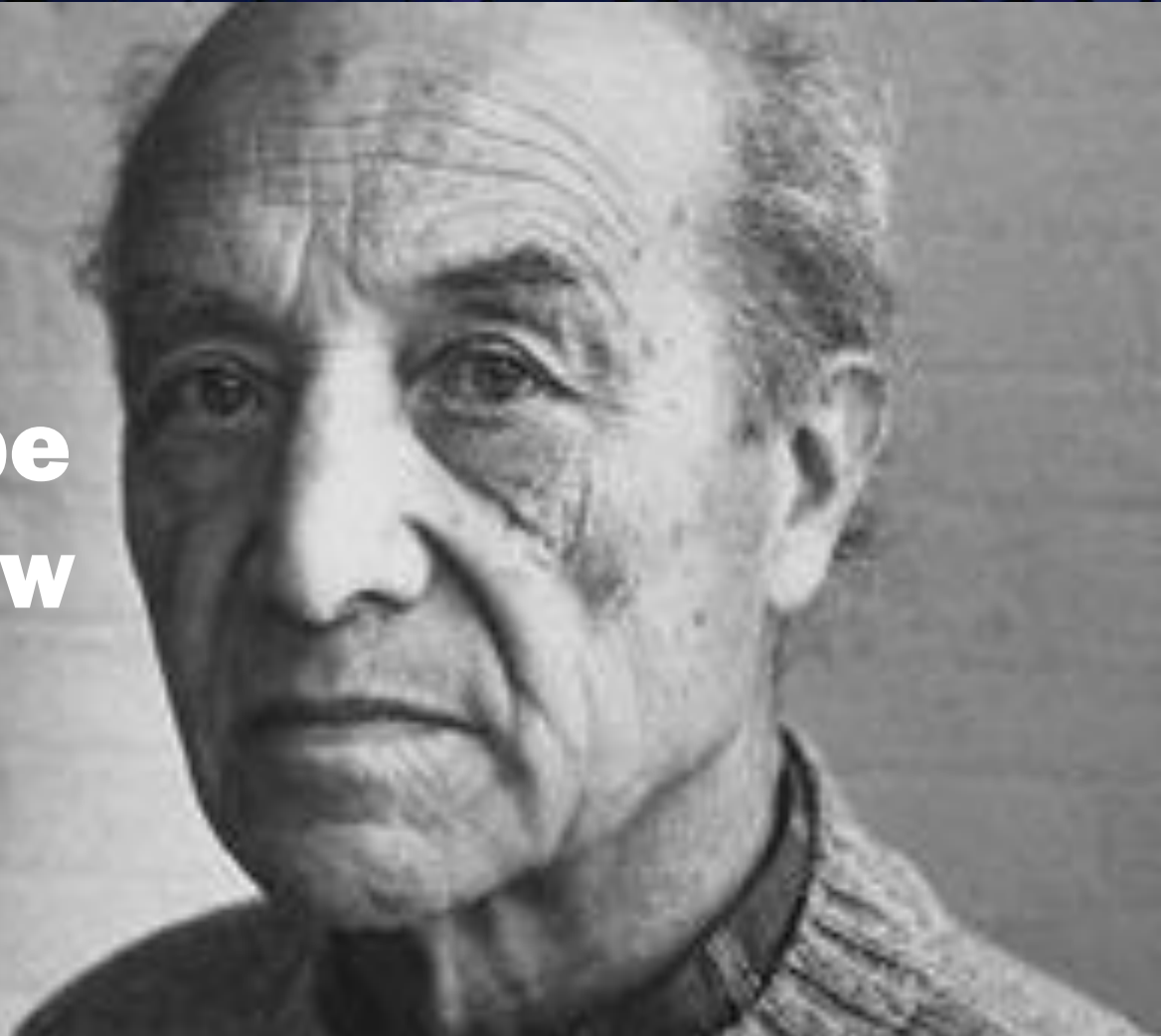
policy analysts



Isamu Noguchi

“

**We are
the landscape
of all we know**



How Does Our Discipline AFFECT US?

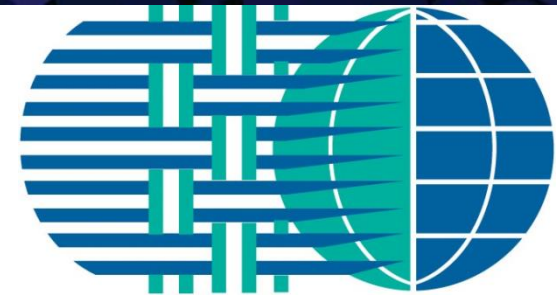
**theories we
consider**

methodologies

**What we
think about**

**units of
analysis**

Consulting Professions LIKE OURS



IAEF[®]

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF FACILITATORS



**American
Accounting
Association**

Thought Leaders in
Accounting

COMPETITORS or ALLIES?

Ethnocentrism of disciplines

Campbell's Fish scale model

Monodisciplinary



Multidisciplinary



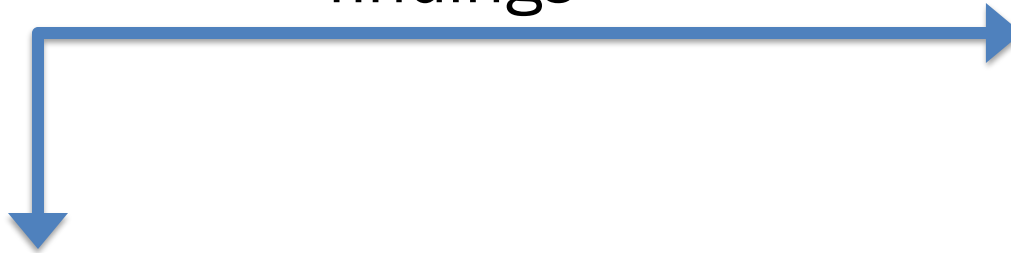
Interdisciplinary



WHAT Do We Share & Learn?

theories
methodologies
findings

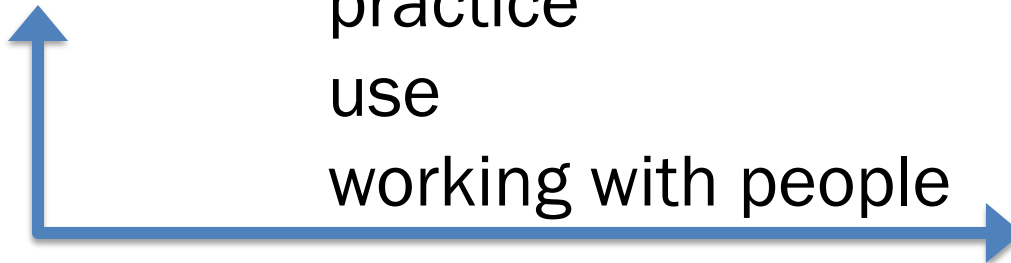
other social sciences



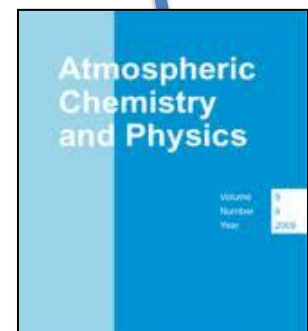
evaluators

practice
use
working with people

consulting professions



HOW Do We Learn & Share?





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