Novel Learner-Centred Approach to Research Design and Data Collection: The Group Repertory Grid Approach

Art Tsang*
Associate Professor, at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Alex Lam
Lecturer at the Education University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Abstract:

The past decades have seen growing emphasis on learner centredness in education. However, scholars have raised concerns over how learners' voices are often overshadowed by researchers' in educational research. It is therefore important to address this imbalance between researchers' and learners' voices in empirical studies. Based on our recently published article (see below), we will introduce an innovative data collection method that tackles the issue of the lack of learners' voices in research design. We will explain the philosophy and steps behind the repertory grid approach (RGA) and the 'group' RGA, which we pioneered with a group of young learners in Hong Kong. This novel learner-centred research method will likely be of interest and value to postgraduates and researchers in the field of education and beyond.