



## Prepositions: activities

Choose the most suitable preposition for the gaps in the text below. Answers are provided on the next page.

Looking back, my best encounters were the more informal ones - like talking \_\_\_\_ the lady \_\_\_\_ door \_\_\_\_ the back fence or \_\_\_\_ people I know and the others these in turn referred me to. Here I did not suffer the aura or role-differentiation of 'expert' or 'data collector' but was \_\_\_\_ more relaxed, mutual terms. Some of my door-knocking ventures would also take \_\_\_\_ this complexion, usually \_\_\_\_ a 'cuppa'. \_\_\_\_ explaining who I was and where I lived (most residents knew my parents) I was immediately more accepted and treated less apprehensively. I found myself \_\_\_\_ more dialectical discussions where our views impacted \_\_\_\_ the other. In this context I became much more aware of the milieu of transactions \_\_\_\_ the community and of the circular nature of linkages. Open-ended questions such as 'How do you feel Neighbourhood Watch has impacted on the community?' were not only easier to ask but enabled more exploration. My assessment involved the residents in dialogue that was shared \_\_\_\_ them (as opposed to keeping it to myself and me doing all the assessment as the 'expert').

More than this, I became a part of the transactions of the community. \_\_\_\_ this respect, I found myself being impacted on \_\_\_\_ those I spoke to. My own relationships \_\_\_\_ some I talked to have improved. One fellow thanked me \_\_\_\_ the company I had given him for the afternoon. One of the more obvious effects was \_\_\_\_ the relationship \_\_\_\_ the Department of Housing pensioner units and their tenant participation officer.

(Adapted from O'Connor, Wilson & Setterlund 2003)

## Answers

Note – these are suggested answers, but there may be more than one possible answer for each gap.

Looking back, my best encounters were the more informal ones - like talking **with** the lady **next** door **over** the back fence or **with** people I know and the others these in turn referred me to. Here I did not suffer the aura or role-differentiation of 'expert' or 'data collector' but was **on** more relaxed, mutual terms. Some of my door-knocking ventures would also take **on** this complexion, usually **over** a 'cuppa'. **After** explaining who I was and where I lived (most residents knew my parents) I was immediately more accepted and treated less apprehensively. I found myself **in** more dialectical discussions where our views impacted **on** the other. In this context I became much more aware of the milieu of transactions **in** the community and of the circular nature of linkages. Open-ended questions such as 'How do you feel Neighbourhood Watch has impacted on the community?' were not only easier to ask but enabled more exploration. My assessment involved the residents in dialogue that was shared **with** them (as opposed to keeping it to myself and me doing all the assessment as the 'expert').

More than this, I became a part of the transactions of the community. **In** this respect, I found myself being impacted on **by** those I spoke to. My own relationships **with** some I talked to have improved. One fellow thanked me **for** the company I had given him for the afternoon. One of the more obvious effects was **on** the relationship **between** the Department of Housing pensioner units and their tenant participation officer.

## References

Adapted from O'Connor, I, Wilson, J & Setterlund, D 2003, *Social work and welfare practice*, 2nd edn, Pearson Education Australia, New South Wales.

### Useful links *(all open in a new window)*

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