

EAPC 2019

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Association for Palliative Care

Global palliative care – shaping the future

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‘Research it is’

By Zana Bayley, presented at the Science Slam, 16th World Research Congress of the European Association for Palliative Care, Berlin 2019.

Am I a doctor, no

Am I a nurse, no

Am I a chaplain, no

I’m a researcher, yes

Listen and learn is the mantra of qualitative researchers like me

Will you listen and learn with me?

A researcher yes, my passion is clear

We’ll all going to die, have no fear

We only got one crack at this,

It’s not something we can dismiss

We gotta get it right.

It’s not enough for people to tell us how to live

It’s not enough for people to tell us how to die

Why?

We shouldn’t have our death dictated by the wealth we have, or the health insurance we have, or the family, or friends, or means to an end

Universal care, is it fair? Is it attainable, when we come to the end of our mortail coil?

Research my friends, research is key

Research gives us evidence to for us to be-

Improving, adapting, modifying, creating
New types of care, new ways of working
Of researching the people who are hurting and dying
We can hear their voice – listen to their experiences
Use their knowledge to guide and influence us

But there are barriers

Blocks in the road

The path of a researcher is often closed

“Research costs money!”

I’m often told

We have so many other things to pay for

Can we afford to spend more...?

Attitude,

Ethos,

Values of you and me, get in the way,

They hinder our access to explanation and reason

You need to open up, accept your part

To embrace research into your heart

Open the gate, gate keepers and see-

that research can bring you prosperity

Yes research costs us, our money and time

But in time it can bring you efficiencies and drive-

forward progress, radical change, and lives-

can be transformed...

Because research is valued, and the value is here

It’s clear

It improves our practice, our care, our community, humanity

Listen and learn is the mantra of qualitative researchers like me

Will you listen and learn with me?

Take time to talk, to observe, to read

To investigate professions and practices to see-
what people really want, what people really need

A comforting ear, a hand to hold,

To be in a warm bed or out in the cold experiencing a final sunset with their child.

I need to ask,

To find out the whats, and the whys, and the hows, of palliation when people die,

I love to discover

what makes people tick or shudder

I ask questions, I listen, I record, I observe

I analysis my data, its what my participants deserve-

to be heard and to make a difference

Without their voice we are ignorant

Of the reality of death.

Listen and learn is the mantra of qualitative researchers like me

Will you listen and learn with me?