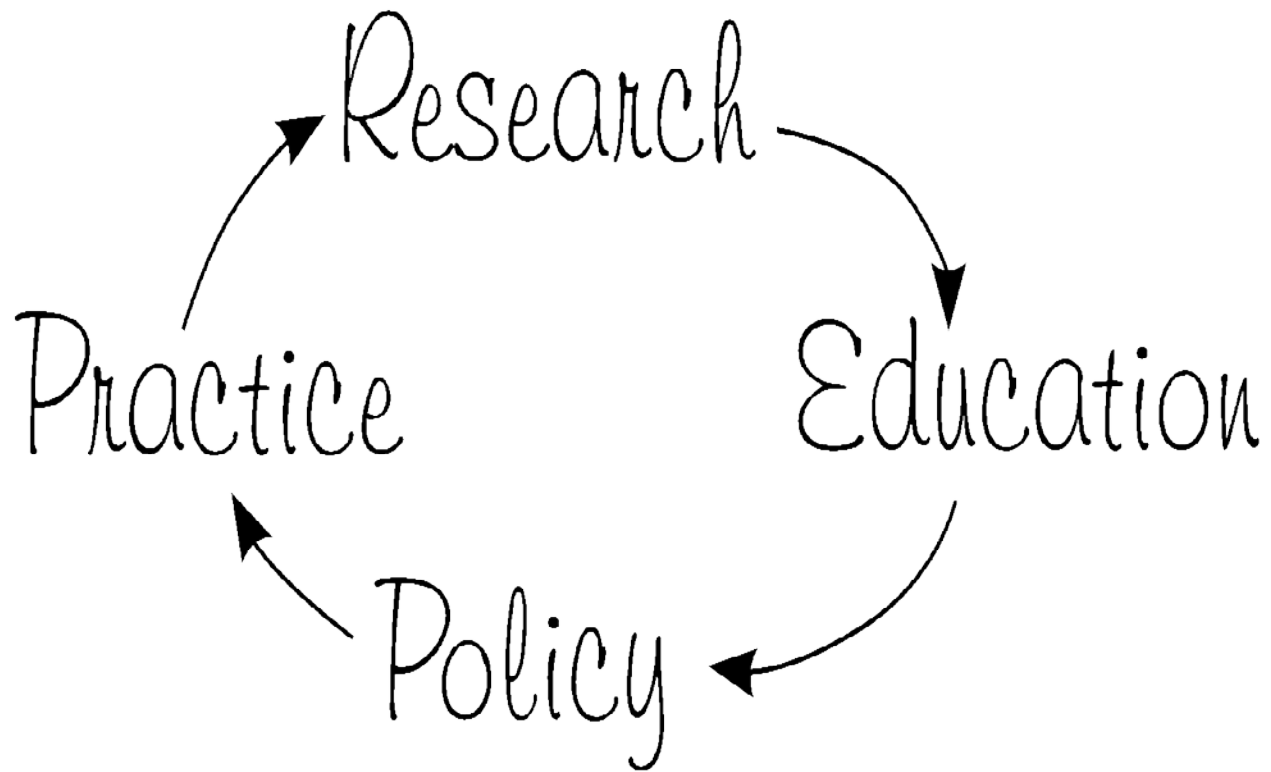


# Translating Research into Policy and Practice: Reflections from the Coalface

Barbara Squires  
ERA AAG Workshop  
4 November 2015



The Virtuous Cycle – Prof Gary Andrews

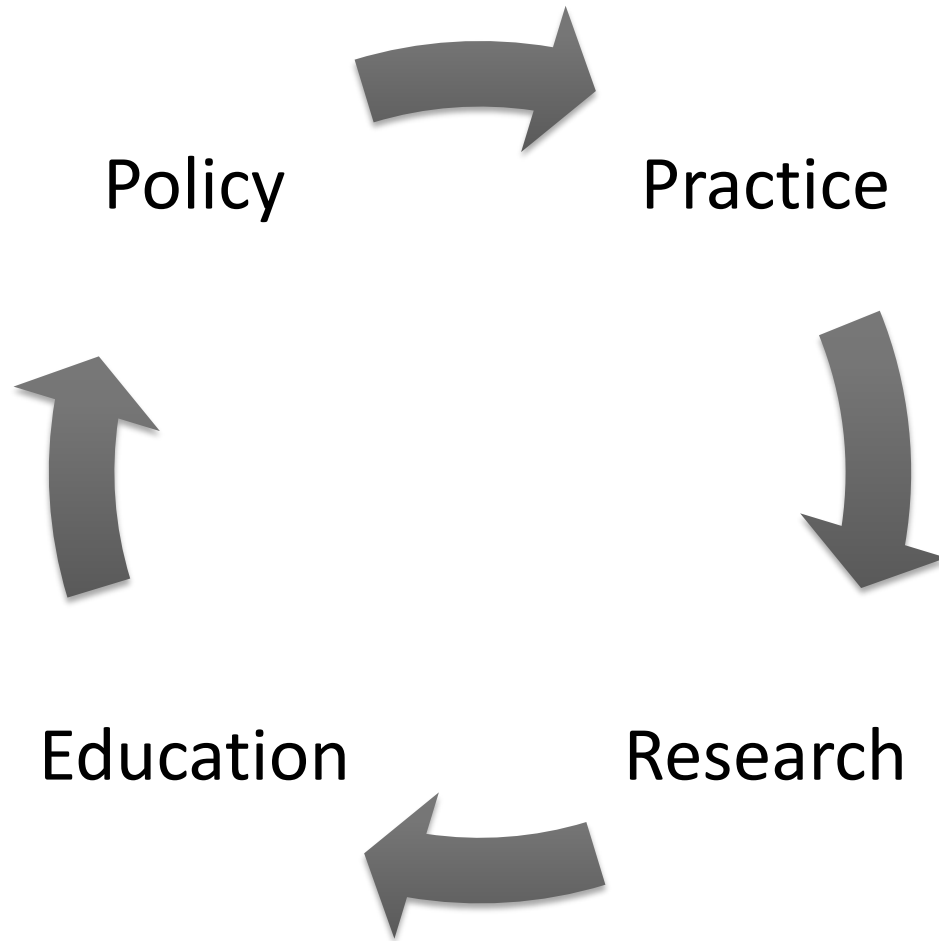
# My journey

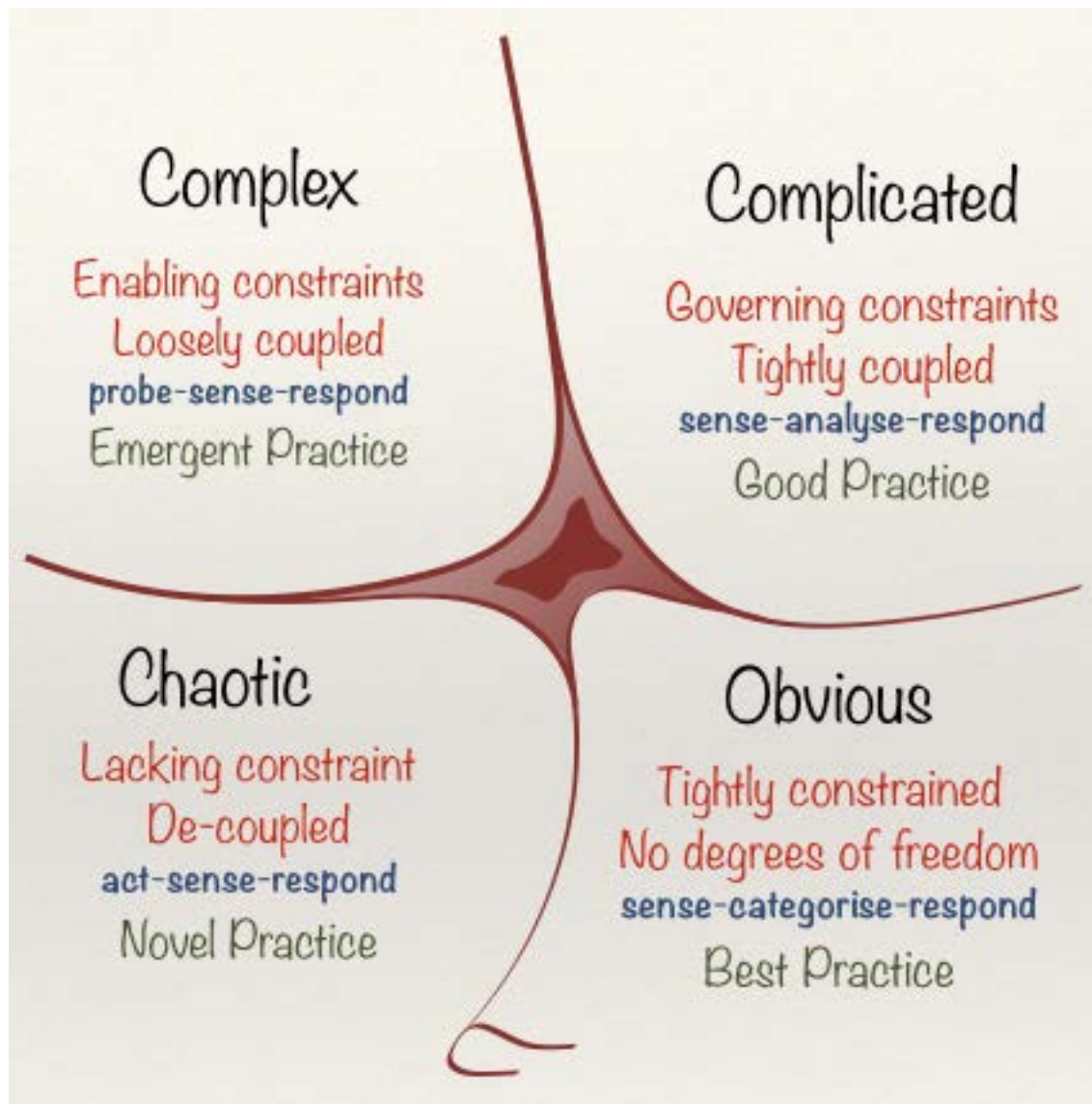
- Social work degree 1970
- Joined AAG 1977
- 1980s – dementia
- 1990s – legal issues, abuse of older people, community aged care
- 2000s – housing for older people
- 2012-15 – research funder

# Designing your research

- Take the “co-words” seriously – co-design, co-create, collaborate, cooperate etc
- Work with the end user to avoid designing elegant but impractical research
- Keep in mind that aged care staff are very busy, and care staff often have low levels of literacy and little access to computers
- Find key people who can advise you
- Give back to the organisation, esp. education

# Turning the circle around:





**The Cynefin Framework – David Snowden**

# Advocacy arena

- Need plain English messages
- Find the people you need to influence
  - policy people in government
  - politicians – get to know the Minister’s diary secretary and staffers
- The more complex the problem (“wicked problems”), the more important it is to collaborate
- Build your networks

# Lessons from life

- Know yourself
- Be brave and give it a go!





# Thank you!

[Barbara@barbarasquiresconsulting.com.au](mailto:Barbara@barbarasquiresconsulting.com.au)

**BARBARA SQUIRES**  
—CONSULTING—

Barbara Squires  
Director

**M:** 0418 698 336

**P:** 02 9690 0206

**A:** 22 Morehead St, Redfern NSW 2016