



BIG IDEAS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD OF DISABILITY

Information Pack

Who Knows? Paulo Freire's ideas about knowledge

Presented by
Hilra Vinha
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About the speakers

Sadhbh (pronounced "Sive" like "Five" with an S) and Hilra are part of the **Centre for Research in Inclusion** at the University of Southampton. They work with Mel Nind.

Hilra is a teacher from Brazil who learned a lot from growing up with her disabled brother Jose. She supports students with learning difficulties in a mainstream college. Hilra is an advocate for inclusion.

Sadhbh teaches people to read and write in different ways. She uses Freire's ideas in her teaching and learning. Her PhD research is on social justice and learning differences. She works for Health Education England and the University of Limerick. She drinks a lot of tea.

About the Workshop

1. Introductions so we all get to meet each other
2. Hilra and Sadhbh will give a short talk. They will use pictures painted by an artist from Brazil
3. We will play Bingo as we go along.
Playing the game will show how learning develops.
You can choose if you want to play.
4. Discussion - what does this mean for you?
5. Back together to share final thoughts

BACKGROUND: Paulo Freire from Brazil

Paulo Freire was a famous teacher and writer in Brazil, South America. He worked in a university.

He was very interested in how people learn and in how people teach.

There were many poor people where Paulo grew up.

They could not go to school and could not read or write.

In order to vote in Brazil at that time, you had to read and write.

Paulo believed it was wrong that people could not vote because they could not read or write.

He believed it was wrong that they had no way to learn to read and write.

He believed it was wrong that these people had no **power**.

Paulo developed a project to teach adults to read and write.

He used ideas and words that were important to these people.

These adults learnt to read and write in 45 days!

Paulo Freire teaching people to read

Paulo created a very interesting way to teach people to read and write. Everyone took part in a **learning circle**.

They called it a *literacy circle* (literacy is a word for learning to read and write).

Everyone in the circle was **respected**.

Everyone in the circle was **equal**.

Everyone **listened** to each other.

The teacher shares information which everyone discusses.

We build on what we already know

We learn from each other

Mel Nind used these ideas in the **Inclusive Research Project** to explore working in partnership with people with learning disabilities.

In the workshop you will find out about Brazil as an example of how Paulo taught new ideas.

We'll do this by playing Brazil Bingo....

BRAZIL BINGO

Attached are 4 bingo cards. Choose one to print out

Or you can use this link <https://bingobaker.com/#f2e5720a45c66f13>

During our talk there will be a picture on each slide.
Keep watching the slides for pictures.

If you get 4 pictures in a row on your bingo card, you say
'BINGO'.

You don't have to play! you can just listen..

(If you want to play bingo afterwards with friends or family, the last page has
the cards for the person calling out the pictures)

About Brazil

You may know things about Brazil already.
Bring these ideas to the workshop.

You can also....look up information about Brazil on the internet
if you like.

And... on the next page you can find out about some food
from Brazil

Cooking from Brazil

Brazil has very good food! If you like, you can try out this easy recipe which Hilra often uses

Baiao de Dois (it means dance for two)

Ingredients

1 can Kidney beans or black beans (*baked beans will do*)
Cooked rice (same amount as the beans)
Chopped vegetables of your choice
Oil of your choice / margarine
Any cheese that you can cut in cubes
Seasoning of your choice

Method

1. Heat the oil / margarine
2. Add the vegetables and seasoning
3. Stir
4. Add the beans
5. Stir
6. Add the rice
7. Stir
8. Add the cheese
9. Stir
10. Turn heat off
11. Eat

Enjoy! We look forward to meeting you at the workshop!

Dictionary

If you want to learn MORE about Paulo Freire here are some of the words he used.

Conscientization – when we become aware of our society and especially oppression in our society.

This word comes from “conscious, meaning being awake and recognising what is happening

“**Banking**” **education** – traditional way of teaching where the teacher is the ‘boss’ and tells the student what to think. The student doesn’t have any power.

It’s like putting money into a bank and letting it pile up.

Praxis – when you come together to think about your situation and you decide to act on it to change things

Further Reading

Freire, P. (1970) *Pedagogy of the oppressed*. New York, Continuum

Nind, M. and H. Vinha (2014) Doing research inclusively: bridges to multiple possibilities in inclusive research. *British Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 42(2), 102–109