

Mercer, J., I. Kelman, K., Lloyd, and S. Suchet. 2008. "Reflections on Use of Participatory Research for Disaster Risk Reduction". *Area*, vol. 40, no. 2, pp. 172-183.

Abstract:

Participatory research approaches are increasingly popular with academic researchers and development organisations working to facilitate change in collaboration with local communities. This paper contributes to recent debates over the use of participatory approaches by examining the use of participatory research within disaster risk reduction. Drawing on research in Papua New Guinea in which participatory techniques were used with indigenous communities to determine strategies for dealing with environmental hazards, the value of such techniques is critiqued. Finally the significance of participatory research as a research methodology is discussed as is its possible contribution to disaster risk reduction policy.