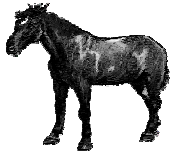


## The Counting Horse - Believe It Or Not?

- A scientific commissioner was established in 1904
- **Observation 1: Hans was no longer clever if its master did not know the answer**
- **Observation 2: Hans did not know the answer if it did not see his master**
  - Rational Thinking / Critical Thinking
  - Systematically varying different conditions and observe the effects
  - Ruling out alternative explanations



1

## Why "Campbell"?

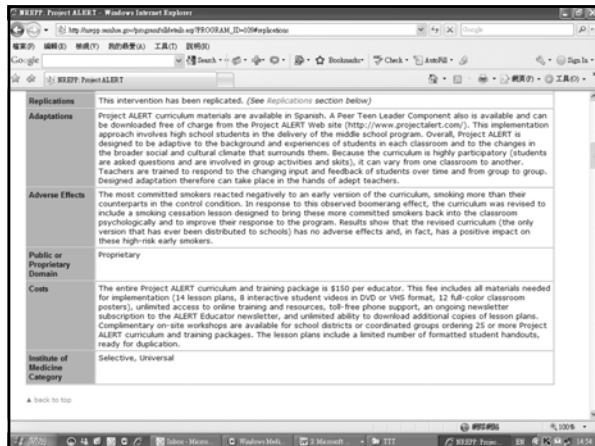
- We are named in honour of Dr. Donald T. Campbell (1916-1996), a member of the National Academy of Sciences in the USA. He believed that scientific evidence could be generated to estimate the effects of governmental reforms, resulting in better informed policy and practice, and ultimately improving people's well being.



2

- The Campbell Collaboration (C2) grew out of a meeting in London in 1999
- 80 people from four countries attended the meeting, many from our sibling organization The Cochrane Collaboration (C1).
- Cochrane had been producing systematic reviews in healthcare, since 1994. Many of its members saw the need for an organization that would produce systematic reviews of research evidence on the effectiveness of social interventions.
- Creation of The Campbell Collaboration in 2000: inaugural meeting in Philadelphia, USA attracting 85 participants from 13 countries
- With partnerships developing in a number of countries, Campbell has held eight Annual Colloquia to date
- A Nordic Campbell Centre was added to the Collaboration in 2001, supported by the Danish Government and the Nordic Council of Ministers.

3



## Reality

A study in Campbell Collaboration (similar to Cochrane Collaboration) showed that visits to correctional institutions did not reduce juvenile crimes. In contrast, compared with control participants, those who joined the visits had a higher chance of committing crime.

- **Read:** Shek, D.T.L. (2008) Enthusiasm-based or evidence-based charities: personal reflections based on the Project P.A.T.H.S. in Hong Kong. *TheScientificWorldJOURNAL: TSW Holistic Health & Medicine* 8, 802–810.

8

- Petrosino A, Turpin-Petrosino C, Buehler J. “Scared Straight” and other juvenile awareness programs for preventing juvenile delinquency. *Campbell Systematic Reviews* 2004.2 DOI: 10.4073/csr.2004.2
- We conclude that programmes like ‘Scared Straight’ are likely to have a harmful effect and
- increase delinquency relative to doing nothing at all to the same youths. Given these results,
- agencies that permit such programmes must rigorously evaluate them not only to ensure that
- they are doing what they purport to do (prevent crime) - but at the very least they do not
- cause more harm than good.

9

## Conclusion

“...Can this popular school-based program prevent drug use at the stages in adolescent development when drugs become available and are widely used, namely, during the high school years? Unfortunately, the answer to the question is ‘No’ ...”(p. 404).

Personal reaction to this study? Implications for social workers in Hong Kong?

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