

Module One

**Evidence Based Practice
Introduction and Overview**

Definition

A Process Involving:

- Posing specific questions
- Searching for current best evidence
- Evaluating the evidence objectively and...
- Taking action based on evidence

Brief History

- Out of Evidence Based Medicine
- Evidence not authority ideas have been around for a long time
- Consolidated as a framework 1992
- Took off in the late 90s and early 00s

Motivations

- Framework to integrate research into practice
- Common ground/language across professions
- Funding and policy friendly
- Ultimately more effective and efficient practice
- Consistent with professional goals and ethics

NASW Code of Ethics

- Promote the well being of clients
- Respect for self-determination
- Practice in areas of competence
- Advance expertise (professional development)
- Examine and keep current with emerging knowledge, research, and evaluation

What is “Evidence”

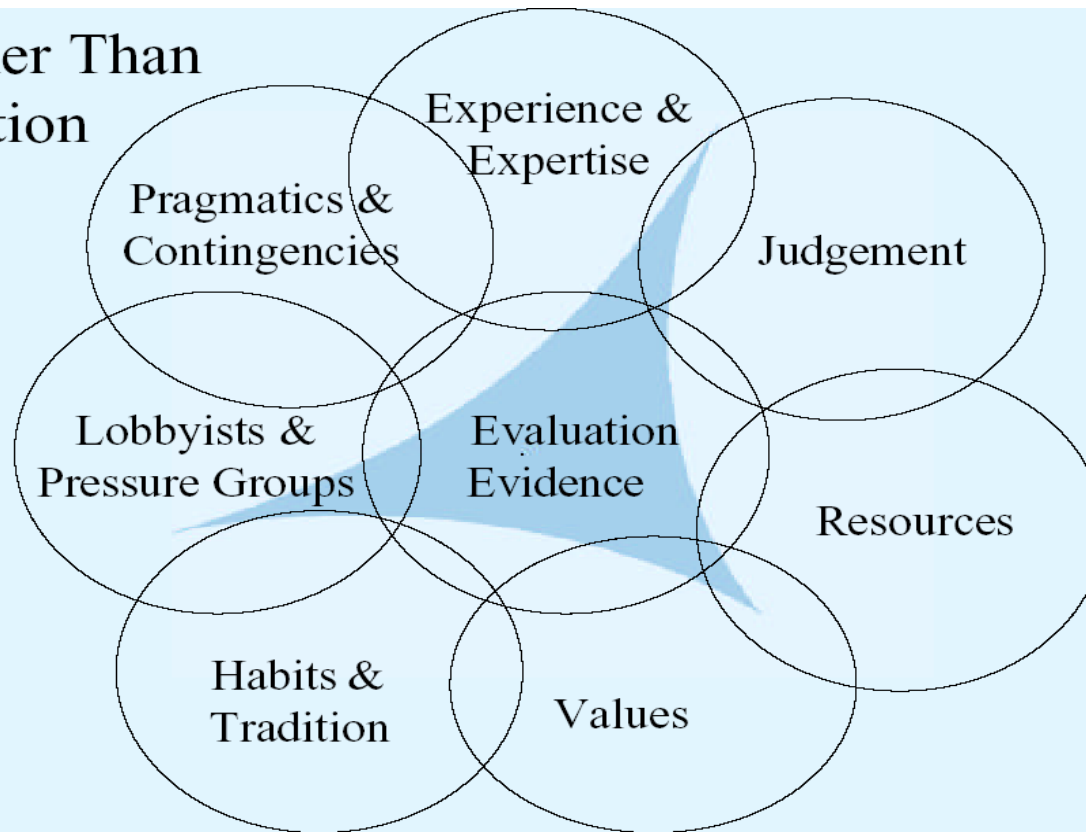
- Research evidence: quantitative and qualitative analyses, evaluations, efficacy studies, etc.

But not alone...in conjunction with:

- Practitioner’s individual expertise
- Client values and expectation

Other decision making factors:

Factors Other Than Evaluation



Keeping an Open Mind

- Evidence may confirm or disconfirm assumptions
- Research evidence does not mandate decision making, but guides it