
DATA SOVEREIGNTY

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DATA SOVEREIGNTY



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Indigenous data sovereignty is the right of a nation to govern the collection, ownership, and application of its own data. It derives from tribes' inherent right to govern their peoples, lands, and resources.

Data are not a foreign concept in the Indigenous world. Indigenous peoples “have always been data creators, data users, and data stewards. Data were and are embedded in Indigenous instructional practices and cultural principles” - Dr. Stephanie Russo Carroll

Concerned by the current state of the data available for tribal and community decision making--including census, health, social services, and environment--and by Native nation's limited control over their data, NNI researchers and a network of colleagues and collaborators are addressing the need for tribes to drive their data agendas through practicing Indigenous data sovereignty and governing their information. Indigenous data sovereignty is the right of a nation to govern the collection, ownership, and application of its own data. It derives from tribes' inherent right to govern their peoples, lands, and resources.

<https://nni.arizona.edu/programs-projects/policy-analysis-research/indigenous-data-sovereignty-and-governance>
Accessed 10/11/2022



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CHALLENGES

Maintaining community knowledge in the face of colonization

- Relocation
- Illegal religious practices
- Punished for speaking language
- Disease and loss of elders
- Loss of children

Public benefits / community risks

- Few protections
- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)



Pupils at en:Carlisle Indian Industrial School, Pennsylvania (c. 1900).

Image by wikimedia



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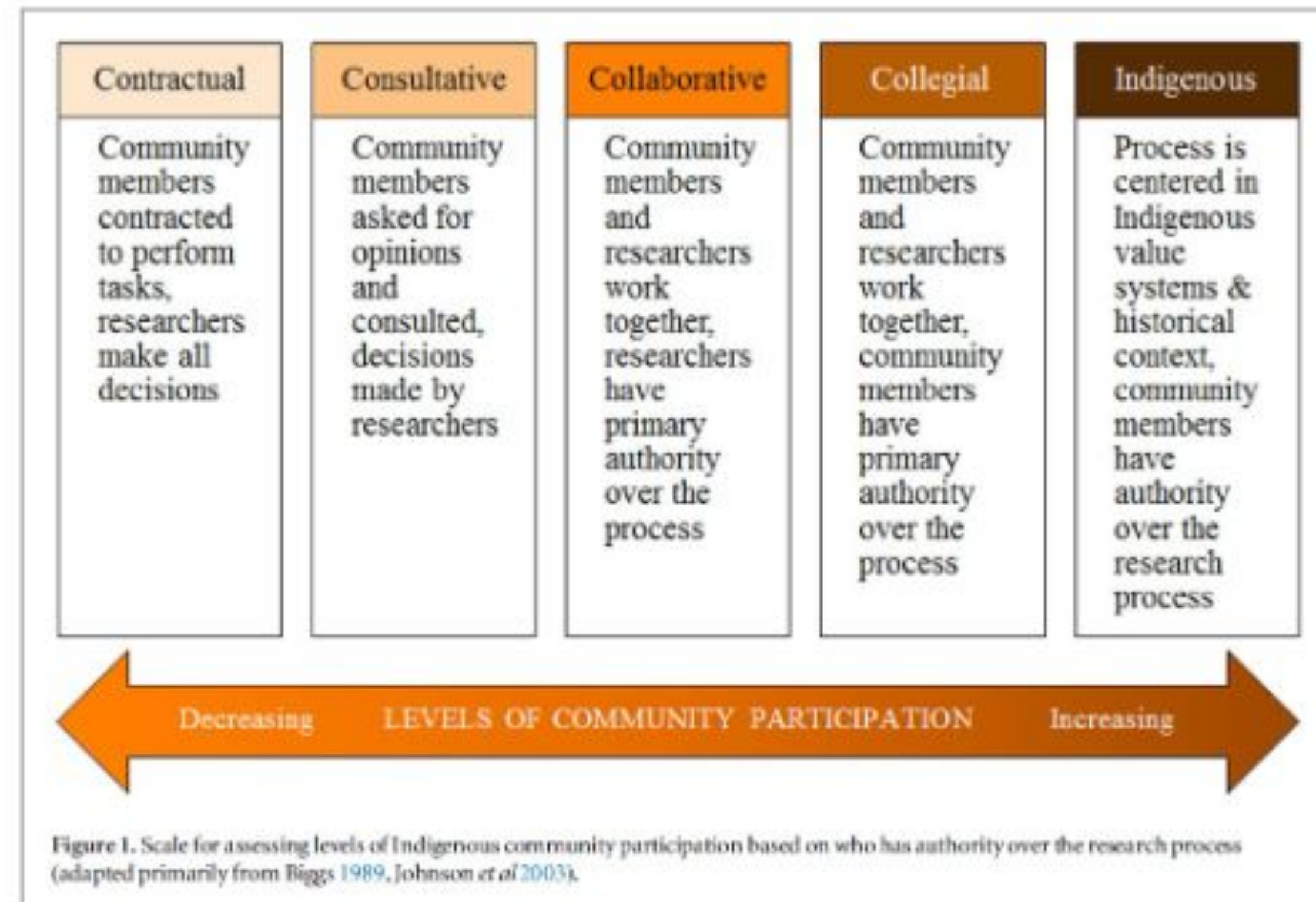
OPPORTUNITIES

- Free, prior, and informed consent
- CARE principles



OPPORTUNITIES

- Research process
- Emerging leaders



RESOURCES

Stephanie Russo Carroll, Edit Herczog, Maui Hudson, Keith Russell, and Shelley Stall. 2021. Operationalizing the CARE and FAIR principles for Indigenous data futures. *Scientific Data* 8:108, April 16, 2021. doi: 10.1038/s41597-021-00892-0.

Dominique David-Chavez and Michael Gavin. 2018. "A Global Assessment of Indigenous Community Engagement in Climate Research." *Environmental Research Letters* 13:123005. doi: 10.1088/1748-9326/aaf300

Research Data Alliance International Indigenous Data Sovereignty Interest Group. (September 2019). "CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance." The Global Indigenous Data Alliance. GIDA-global.org.

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d3799de845604000199cd24/t/5da9f4479ecab221ce848fb2/1571419335217/CARE+Principles_One+Paggers+FINAL_Oct_17_2019.pdf

Linda Tuhiwai Smith. 1999. *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*. London: Zed Books Ltd.

Kyle Whyte. 2018. What do Indigenous knowledges do for Indigenous peoples? pp 57-81 in *Traditional Ecological Knowledge: Learning from Indigenous Practices for Environmental Sustainability*, edited by Melissa Nelson and Dan Shilling. New York: Cambridge University Press.

[US Indigenous Data Sovereignty Network](http://usindigenousdata.arizona.edu/) <http://usindigenousdata.arizona.edu/>

[International Indigenous Data Sovereignty Group](https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/international-indigenous-data-sovereignty-ig) at the Research Data Alliance
<https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/international-indigenous-data-sovereignty-ig>

[Global Indigenous Data Alliance \(GIDA\)](http://www.gida-global.org/) <http://www.gida-global.org/>

THANK YOU!



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