

Exploring the relationship dynamics between the public and private sector in the delivery of inclusive economic growth in Scotland.

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The tale of two pictures



Context: Why does Inclusive Growth matter?

- Inclusive Growth: Shift in economic thinking; recognition that neoliberalism has facilitated growth in inequality (Tyler, 2015). Inequality as a barrier to additional economic growth
- Questions of how we measure economic outcomes: Is GDP still relevant? (Coscieme et al, 2019)
- Targeting beneficiaries of growth (Trebeck & Williams, 2019)

Scotland: Driving the Inclusive agenda

- *“One of the things we have sought to do since we decided to prioritise inclusive growth... is increasingly recognise that the two challenges, of competitiveness and equality, are not competing with each other but two sides of the one coin. We will have an even more productive and competitive economy, if we had a fairer society.”*
- First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, Inclusive Growth Conference, University of Glasgow (2017)

Research questions and objectives

Central Research Questions

- How have the relationship dynamics and power between the public and private sector influenced the delivery of economic development?
- How has inclusive growth shaped the behaviour of the public and private sectors in relation to economic policy?
- What are the conditions through which inclusive growth will become a shared pursuit in tackling specific societal challenges?

Objectives

1. Critically explore stakeholder theory and its application to the relationship between the public and private sector
2. Evaluate the application of inclusive economic development with a focus on the Scottish economy
3. Application and analysis of Gadamerian hermeneutics in considering the perception of power through the delivery of inclusive growth
4. Construction of model to address power imbalance in stakeholder relationships when delivering inclusive growth

Framing the theory



Stakeholder Theory: Balancing power



- Evolution of theory: Need to address dynamics of power in fostering sustainable relationships
- Scoring stakeholders: Balancing trust, power and legitimacy – how we can influence change
- Addressing the scope of stakeholder relationships: moving beyond the consumer; recognising the role of Government

Public Sector Perspective

“Sensible people do not get involved in arguments about whether economic progress is due to Government activity or to individual initiative, they know that it is due to both, and they concern themselves only with asking what is the proper contribution of each” (Lewis, 1955, p336)

- Need to ensure societal benefit as a consequence of intervention (Coscieme et al, 2019)



Private Sector Perspective



- Evolution of Corporate Social Responsibility: Shift from shareholder to stakeholder – fostering greater accountability
- Move from legal obligation towards societal norms
- Measurement of Social Activity – Bcorp, BITC, OECD

Inclusive Growth:

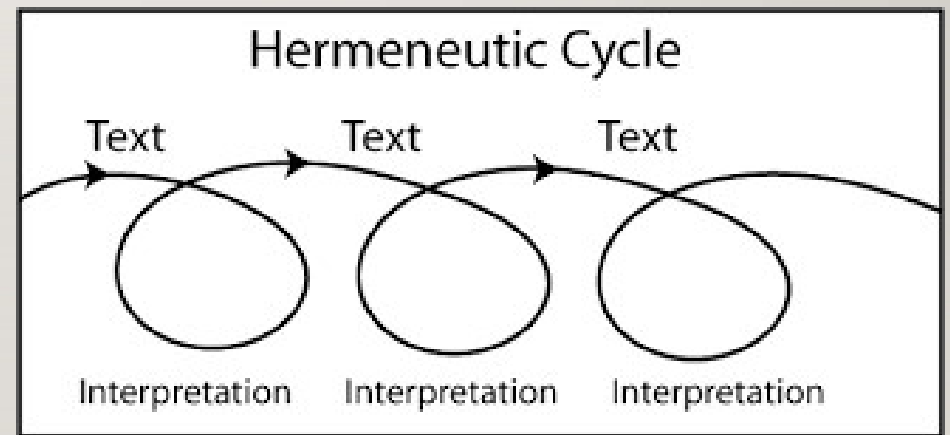
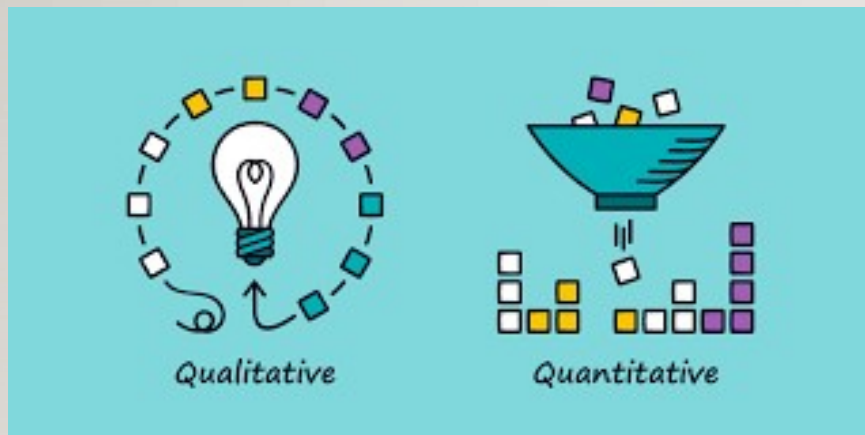
- Neoliberalism: Relevance for modern society
- Challenges in defining Inclusive Growth
- Lessons from Scotland – Public and Private



Framing the Relationship: Establishing the reality between public and private sector



Methodological Direction



Methods proposed



- Gadamerian Hermeneutics
- Semi structured interviews through which to reflect intelligence and capture experience
- 18 interviews carried out over 3 cycles
- Direct transcription – support coding process

Audiences for research



GOING BACK TO GLASGOW

