



# Evaluation in Action: Interviews With Expert Evaluators

*Jody L. Fitzpatrick, Christina A. Christie, Melvin M Mark*

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**Evaluation in Action: Interviews With Expert Evaluators** is the first book to go behind the scenes of real evaluations to explore the issues faced and the decisions made by notable evaluators in the field. Drawing from the popular "Exemplars" section in the *American Journal of Evaluation (AJE)*, the book's twelve interviews with evaluators illustrate a variety of evaluation practices in different settings and include commentary and analysis on what the interviews teach about evaluation practice.

## Praise for Evaluation in Action

*"Evaluation in Action: Interviews With Expert Evaluators is a "must" read for those who want to know how evaluations really take place."*

Marvin C. Alkin, *University of California, Los Angeles*

*"This book offers a rare opportunity to glimpse the assumptions, values, logic, and reasoning behind evaluator choices. It models the reflection required of good practice. The interviews are accessible and engaging, like being invited to a conversation over coffee—a tribute to the power of storytelling. They drew me in and made me want to join the discussion and ask even more questions. The section on cultural competence in evaluation is a particularly significant contribution to the knowledge base of our field."*

Karen Kirkhart, *Syracuse University, former President of American Evaluation Association*

*"This book is unique in the breadth of evaluation types and settings covered and the interview format provides a personal, in-depth picture of the evaluator's thinking. I'm excited about using it with my students."*

Katy M. Perry, *Oklahoma State University, former Chair of the Topical Interest Group on Teaching of Evaluation*

*This book fills a major gap in evaluation literature. In addition to the cases, the introductory chapter is a masterful distillation of key issues in evaluation, while the last two chapters provide a concise analysis of the interaction of evaluation theory and practice.*

Leslie Cooksy, *University of Delaware*

*"A fresh and insightful glimpse into the deliberations and choices made by practicing evaluators. The questions asked of the evaluators are right on target and give students of evaluation, whether they are in the classroom or on the job, solid guidance on navigating around the dilemmas that arise when dealing with stakeholders and with sticky ethical challenges. This text fills a need in training evaluators not met by*

current textbooks."

?Kathryn E. Newcomer, *George Washington University*

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