How to present results more effectively to policymakers

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NUS
Lee Kuan Yew
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Using the Social Sciences as
Evidence in Public Policy

BMJ
Health care is not a human right
salvate | Servizio Sanitario Nazionale

Policy research

Research

of policy

Research

<u>for</u> policy

Skills, competences, and techniques…

Mintron, 2003

- building expert knowledge
- interviewing informants
- giving presentations
- working in teams
- facilitating meetings
- writing for multiple audiences
- conflict management
- and professional networking.

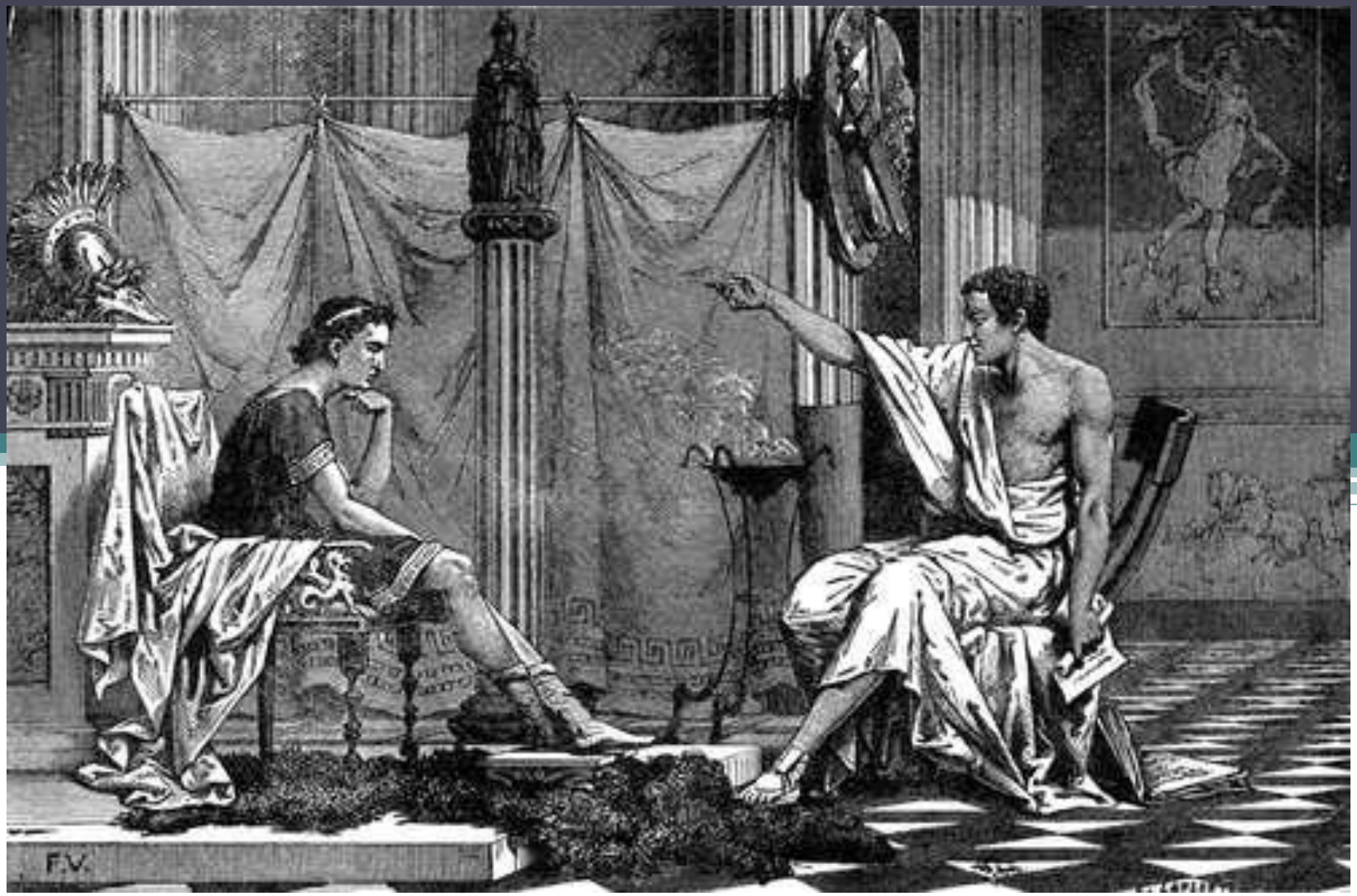
Radin, 2000: 125-126

- case study methods
- cost-benefit analysis
- ethical analysis
- evaluation
- future analysis
- historical analysis
- implementation analysis
- interviewing
- legal analysis
- political feasibility analysis
- public speaking
- small group facilitation
- specific program knowledge
- statistics
- survey research methods
- systems analysis.

Patton and Sawicki, 1993

- writing
- effectively supporting documentation
- public speak publicly
- developing simple models ()
- evaluating distributional aspects of policies
- incorporating political factors into analysis
- advocating uncomfortable positions
- working under time constraints
- developing management skills
- obtaining policy-relevant data
- synthesizing mountains of reports and memoranda
- practicing secondary data sources
- designing effective guidelines
- coping with uncertainty
- understanding legislative language
- developing researched analysis for staff
- being sceptical

In a nutshell… you must be


F.V.

Like surgery, the making of policy and the giving of policy advice are exercises of skills, and we do not judge skilful performance by the amount of information stored in the head of the performer or by the amount of formal planning.

Rather, we judge it by criteria like good timing and attention to details; by the capacity to recognize the limits of the possible, to use limitations creatively, and to learn from one's mistakes;

by the ability **not to show what should be done, but to persuade people to do what they know should be done.**

(Majone, 1989: 20)

“con

BASIC RESEARCH	POLICY RESEARCH
Understanding	Changing
True	Decision
Interest	Need
Robust	Relevant
Primary	Secondary
Collecting	Interpreting
Analytical slices	Major facts
Public	Confidential
Ready	Needed
Published	Readable
Communication	Communication!
USEFUL	USABLE

Please, note:

- Identification
- Question – a “?”
- Knowledge creeping – not linear
- The importance of limits
- It is always your fault

- Above all…

Above all

try to enjoy your research…

HAVE FUN!

…some of it will make a big difference!

THANK YOU

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