Identity constructions of people who use illicit drugs

Beyond symbolic boundaries and conventionality?

Michelle Van Impe
Ghent University
How you see yourself:

Complex human being

Hopes

Dreams

Aspirations

How most professors see you:

Brain

So, how’s research?

Stick
“While the boundary defines the group it is the narrative that defines the boundary”

Copes, 2016: 209
“I honestly didn’t see myself as that bad because there was people that were worse than me, that were doing harder drugs that had more impact.”

Interview with Nate, Lancaster, Santana, Madden & Ritter, 2015: 162
ACTION
RESEARCH

PLAN    ACT

REFLECT  OBSERVE
“Movement results from living within the paradox”

Smith & Berg, 1997: 215
“One of the worst forms of poverty that’s shaped our situation is poverty of the imagination”

Speech Paul Gilroy, 2011
