

1. Background & Purpose/Aims

	Proposal Example	Discussion
Do this	Contemporary educational policy, including Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, 2004) and Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA, 2015), both mandate access to the general education curriculum alongside students without disabilities. However, research continually documents that students with the most significant disabilities and support needs are more likely to receive instruction in substantially separate class environments. The aim of this project is to design and evaluate a school-wide action planning process focused on identifying and removing barriers to inclusive education.	In this example we see the common element of two policies- access to the general curriculum- is highlighted in the opening statement. The description then makes a statement that integrates the literature, and the final aim – identifying and removing barriers to inclusive education - relates to the concepts previously discussed
Don't do this	The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA, 2004) says that students with disabilities receive individualized instruction in the least restrictive environment (LRE) to the greatest extent possible. One study showed that students intellectual disability (ID) were usually in a classroom a separate setting from students without disabilities. Another study found that students with the most intensive support needs were the least likely to receive instruction in the general education classroom. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA, 2015) also requires states to design alternate achievement standards and allow for access to the general education curriculum.	In this example, the authors begin by reviewing one policy and the concept of LRE, which is fine. However, then instead of integrating the literature, they summarize two individual studies- this may not be the idea use of space. The section ends with a reference to another policy, and the concepts discussed about that policy – alternative achievement standards- do not relate to the concepts previously discussed. Finally, there is no specific aim or purpose or research question.

2. Description/Design

	Proposal Example	Discussion
Do this	The goal of the intervention was to reduce challenging behaviors and decrease parent stress. Parents of children with autism ages 3-5 attended bi-weekly group meetings to learn to identify antecedents to challenging behavior and generate solutions to reduce behavior escalation. Parents completed the Parenting Stress Index pre and post interventions, along with a daily log of the frequencies and intensity of children's challenging behavior during the 14 week intervention. At the end of the intervention, Parents completed the Treatment Acceptability Rating Form Revised [TARF-R] and satisfaction questionnaire.	This description provides targeted detail in a very concise way. It describes an intervention and the targets- reduce challenging behaviors and decrease stress. We are told the age of the children, how often the intervention was held (both frequency and the total length of 14 weeks), and what parents did during the intervention. We also have a concise description of the data collected, including the pre and post measures and daily logs.
Don't do this	This intervention addressed parent stress by teaching parents strategies for addressing and reducing children's challenging behavior. We examined the trend of frequencies and intensity of challenging behavior of the children and parent satisfaction.	This description does an adequate job of describing the target of intervention- strategies to reduce challenging behaviors and an ultimate goal of reducing parent stress. But no details are given about the intervention and the type of data collected is not stated. WE don't know how they gathered information about challenging behaviors or parent satisfaction

3. Outcomes/Findings

	Proposal	Discussion
Do this	The stakeholder action committee members arranged meetings with 60% of the state legislatures regarding the bill. The bill to increase funding for respite services passed the house and senate and was signed by the Governor. This accomplishment came 32 months after our group's formation.	In this policy focused proposal, we are told the outcomes were that 60% of the state legislatures had meetings with the stakeholder action committee. We also see the result of that advocacy- the bill passed- and we are provided with a context for the timeline of this action committee
Don't do this	Members of our team met with legislators and a bill to increase funding for respite services was passed.	In contrast, this parallel example, the authors tell us that they met with legislators, and the bill passed. But we have less detail. We don't get a clear picture for how many legislators they met with, or when the bill was passed.

4. Implications & Impact

	Proposal	Discussion
Do this	The positive reduction in high cost Medicaid claims (e.g., extended hospitalizations, surgery) after the implementation of a medical home for individuals with cerebral palsy provides initial evidence for a state-wide service model.	In this implications statement, the authors clearly link the implication- initial evidence for a state wide service model for a medical home for individuals with CP- to what we can assume were the previously reported results- the reduction in high cost Medicaid claims. This implication is also appropriate – evidence in one part of the state could have implications of expanding that to a state wide model.
Don't do this	This analysis of state Medicaid for this case state suggests that all states may reduce healthcare costs by implementing medical homes.	In this example, the implications do not appear supported by the previously reported results. Data in one state may not provide strong enough justification that it could work in ALL states and reduce ALL healthcare costs- these claims are general and are not supported by findings from one study.