

# What do disability support organisations believe about positive behaviour support (PBS)? Using policy belief systems to identify emerging alliances in the NDIS

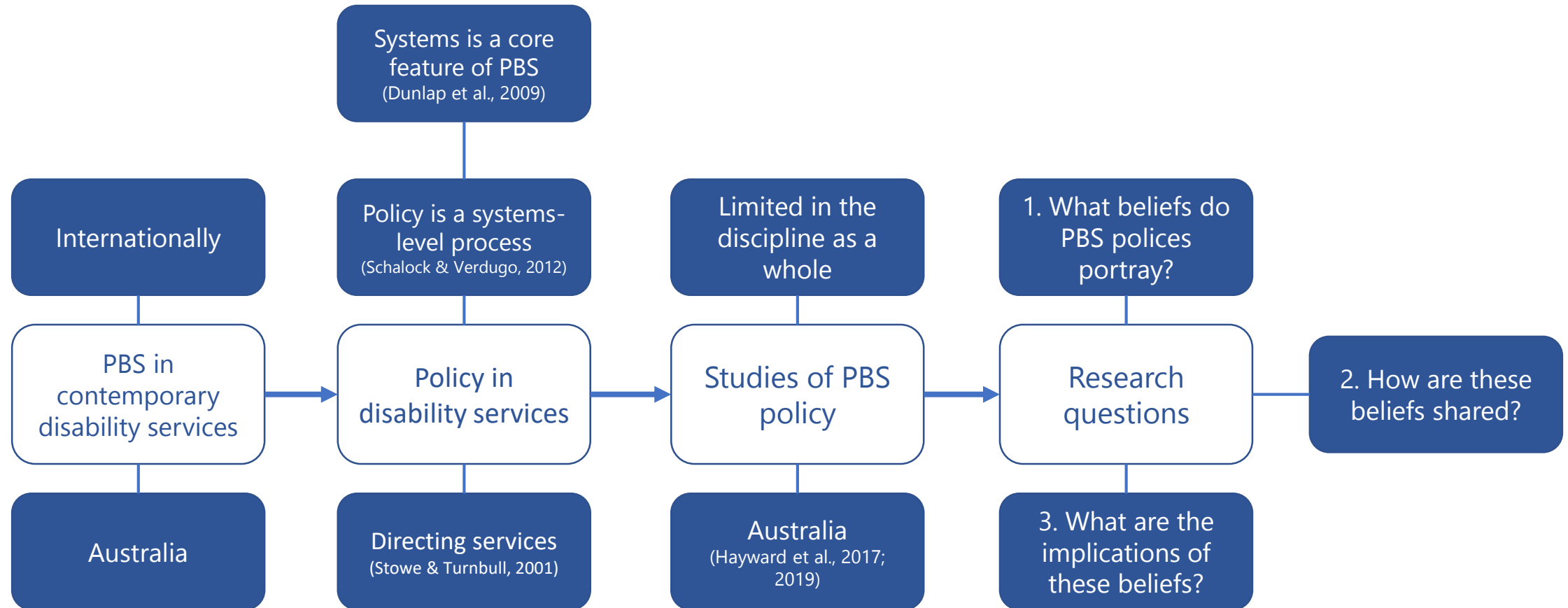
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# The problem



Dunlap et al. (2009). Overview of positive behaviour support. In W. Sailor, G. Dunlap, G. Sugai & R. Horner (eds), *Handbook of Positive Behaviour Support* (pp. 3-16), New York: Springer.

Hayward et al. (2017). Analysing text in positive behavioural support policy: A pilot study. *International Journal of Positive Behavioural Support*, 7(2), 37-48.

Hayward et al. (2019). Positive behaviour support in Australian disability policy, and its future with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). *Research and Practice in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 6(1), 14-23.

Schalock, R. L. & Verdugo, M. A. (2012). A conceptual and measurement framework to guide policy development and systems change. *Journal of Policy and Practice in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 9(1), 63-72.

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# Findings



Beliefs about  
PBS vary



A relatively  
small number  
of beliefs  
about PBS are  
shared



The *values*  
and  
*attitudes*  
associated  
with PBS  
are shared  
the most



The *nature of*  
*support* in  
PBS was  
shared the  
least



There was a  
preference  
for a  
*hierarchical*  
*approach* in  
PBS policy



No single  
organisation  
was  
influential in  
the  
promotion  
of PBS  
beliefs



A different  
coalition  
exists for  
each policy  
domain.

Only one  
organisation  
is present in  
all three

## Advocacy Coalition Framework (ACF)

[Sabatier, 1988]

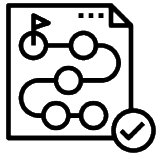
- Policy processes take place within policy subsystems
- Subsystems are interactions between persons from different institutions
- Subsystems are intergovernmental
- Policies are sets of values priorities and causal assumptions
- Beliefs in the ACF are hierarchical:
  1. Deep core beliefs
  2. Policy core beliefs
  3. Secondary aspects



## Discourse Network Analysis (DNA)

[Wasserman & Faust, 1994]

- A combination of *content analysis* and *social network analysis* using ideology from published materials
- Discourse coalitions are groups of organisations that voice similar beliefs (Kukkonen et al., 2017)
- DNA allows the coding of beliefs and preferences and mapping the relations in the form of networks
- DNA uses explicit knowledge expressed in writing independent from engaging with persons
- DNA is used with policy core beliefs in the ACF (Leifeld, 2013)



# Methods

## Design

1. Define policy (Considine, 1994)
2. Standards for qualitative public administration research (Ospina et al., 2018)
3. Quality standards for interpretative research (Schwartz-Shea, 2006)
4. Searching for PBS policies (Hayward, 2018)
5. Only policies from Australian disability service providers (NGOs)
6. Policies which solely focused on BSPs were excluded

## Define

1. Policy core beliefs (Jenkins-Smith et al. 2014):
  - a) Normative: Basic orientation and value priorities; whose welfare is of utmost concern - using *cultural theory* (Ripberger et al. 2014) and *policy cultures* (Considine, 1994)
  - b) Empirical: Overall assessment of the seriousness of the problem, its basic causes, and preferred solutions for addressing it - using *wicked problems, framing, design, implementation and capacity* (Head, 2019)

Considine, M. (1994). *Public policy. A critical approach*. South Melbourne: MacMillan.

Hayward, B. (2018, March). *Using diffusion of innovations theory to improve a PBS policy study*. Poster presented at the meeting of the Association for Positive Behaviour Support, San Diego, CA.

Head, B. W. (2019). Forty years of wicked problems literature: Forging closer links to policy studies. *Policy and Society*, 38(2), 180-197.

Jenkins-Smith et al. (2014). The advocacy coalition framework: Foundations, evolution, and ongoing Research. In P. A. Sabatier & C. M. Weible (Eds.). *Theories of the policy process* (pp. 183-223). Boulder, CO: Westview.

Ospina et al. (2018). Assessing qualitative studies in public administration research. *Public Administration Review*, 78(4), 593-605.

Ripberger et al. (2014). Cultural theory and the measurement of deep core beliefs within the Advocacy Coalition Framework. *Policy Studies Journal*, 42(4), 509-527.

Schwartz-Shea, P. (2006). Judging quality. Evaluative criteria and epistemic communities. In D. Yanow et al. (Eds.), *Interpretation and method: Empirical research methods and the interpretive turn* (pp. 89-113).



# Methods

## Code

1. Policy orientation
2. Policy framing
3. Policy preferences
4. Develop codebook
5. Hand-coding and display sorting (Crabtree & Miller, 1999)
6. Multi-pass coding (Leifeld, 2013)
7. Cluing phrases (Saldana, 2012)
8. Iterative review of coded material as per Steinfeld (2016)

} Analysis

## Analyse

1. Summary tables
2. Matrix construction:
  - Affiliation and adjacency
  - Sliced and dichotomised (Scott, 2000)
4. Shared belief statements
5. Graphing software ("Visone")
6. Betweenness centrality (Butts, 2008)
7. Louvain values (Koltsova et al., 2016)
8. Semantic analysis (Mestrovic, 2018)

Butts, C. T. (2008). Social network analysis: A methodological introduction. *Asian Journal of Social Psychology*, 11, 13-41.

Crabtree, B. F. & Miller, W. L. (1999). Using codes and code manuals. In B. F. Crabtree & W. L. Miller (Eds.). *Doing qualitative research* (2nd Ed).

Koltsova et al. (2016). Communities of co-commenting in the Russian LiveJournal and their topical coherence. *Internet Research*, 26(3), 710-732.

Leifeld, P. (2013). Reconceptualizing major policy change in the advocacy coalition framework: A discourse network analysis of German pension politics. *The Policy Studies Journal*, 41(1), 169-198.

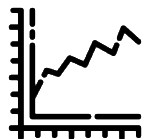
Mestrovic, A. (2018). Collaboration networks analysis: Combining structural and keyword-based approaches. In J. Szymanski & Y. Velegrakis (eds). *Semantic keyword-based search on structured data sources*.

Saldana, J. (2016). *The coding manual for qualitative researchers* (3rd Ed). London: Sage

Scott, J. (2000). *Social network analysis* (2nd edition). London: Sage.

Steinfeld, N. (2016). The F-campaign: A discourse network analysis of party leaders' campaign statements on Facebook. *Israel Affairs*, 22(3-4), 743-759.

Visone (2.6.3) [computer program] <https://visone.info/index.html>



# Results

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Statements coded present (percent)			
	Preference	Orientation	Framing
Org A	41	80	47
Org B	71	0	59
Org C	53	80	47
Org D	41	40	41
Org E	59	60	41
Org F	18	100	35
Org G	35	0	53
Org H	41	80	53
Org I	59	100	65
Org J	18	20	35
Org K	53	60	59

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The average number of policy belief statements present in each organisation's policy varied between **44** and **56%**



# Results



Figure 1. Network diagram of organisational policy **preferences**

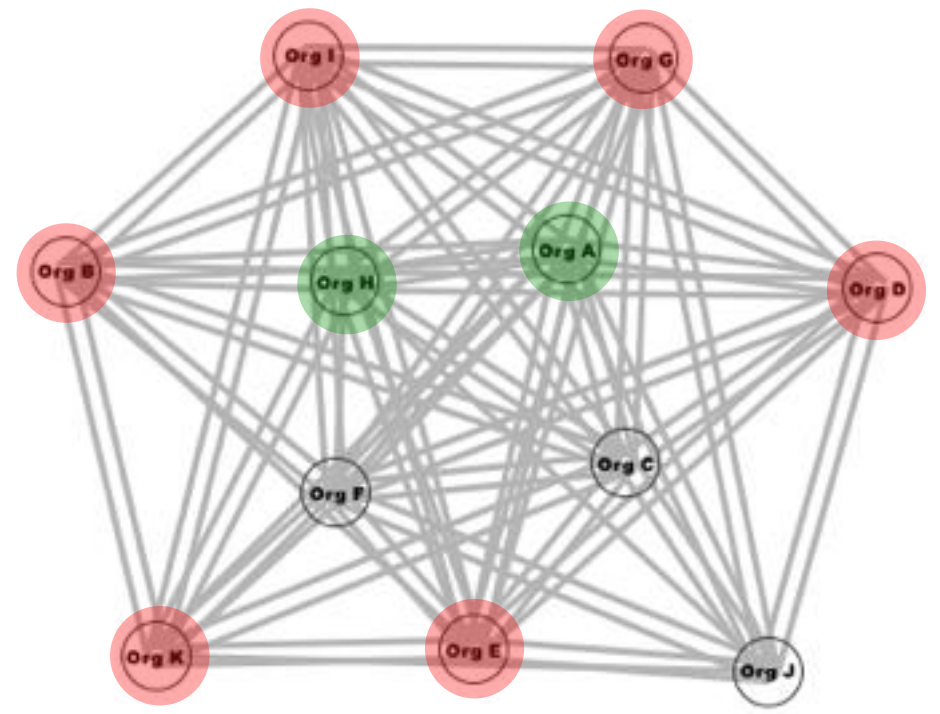


Figure 2. Network diagram of organisational policy **framing**

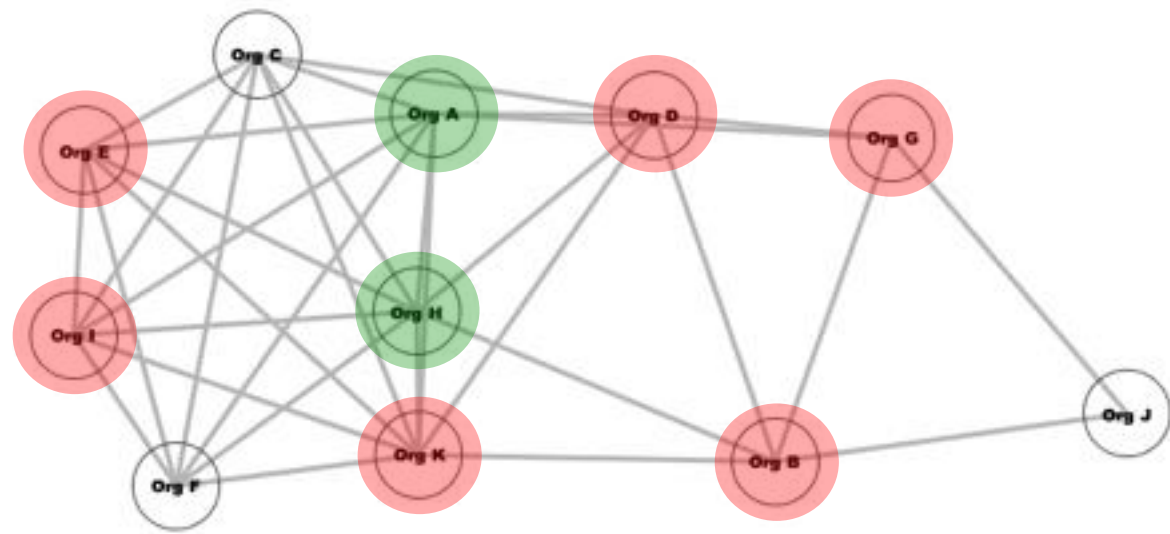


Figure 3. Network diagram of organisational policy **orientation**





# Results

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	Betweenness		
	Orientation	Framing	Preferences
Org A	23.526	15.314	4.007
Org B	22.179	2.667	0
Org C	2.885	15.314	0.893
Org D	8.269	2.857	5.997
Org E	0	11.957	8.881
Org F	0	15.314	6.89
Org G	12.115	9.57	17.768
Org H	15.513	12.067	22.307
Org I	0	8.821	11.83
Org J	0	2.872	11.786
Org K	15.513	3.257	9.643

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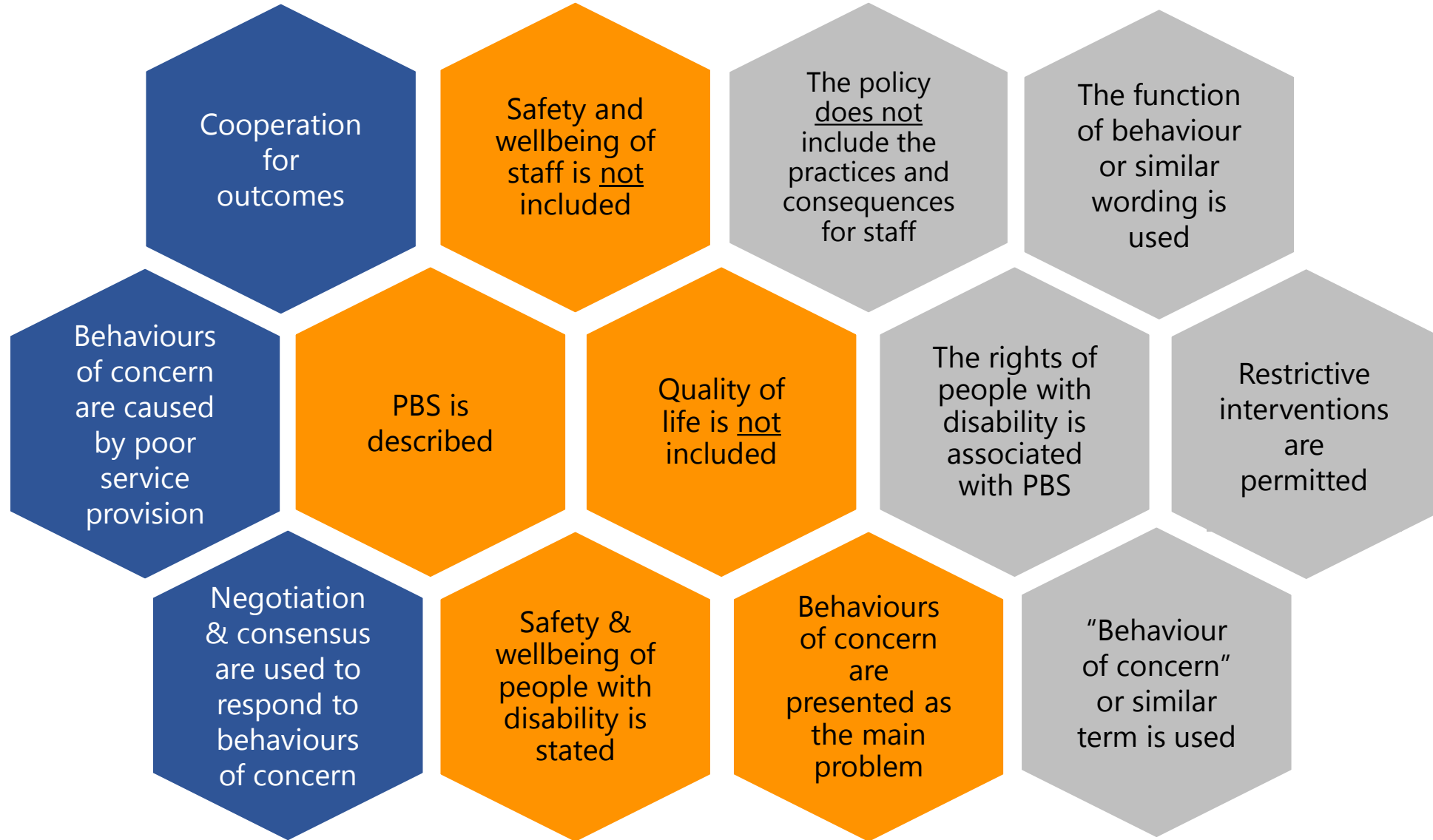
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	Louvian value		
	Orientation	Framing	Preferences
Org A	0	0	0
Org B	1	1	1
Org C	0	0	1
Org D	1	1	0
Org E	0	0	0
Org F	0	0	0
Org G	1	0	0
Org H	0	1	1
Org I	0	1	1
Org J	1	0	0
Org K	0	0	1

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# Findings

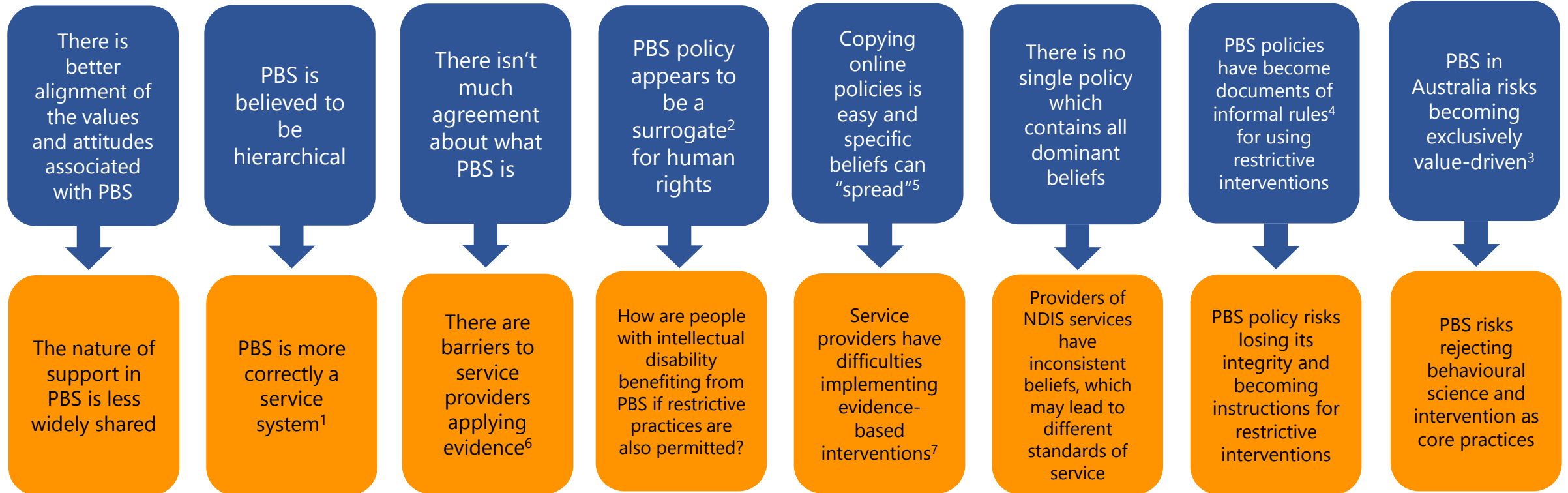




# Implications



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<sup>1</sup> Allen, D. (2009). Positive behavioural support as a service system for people with challenging behaviour. *Psychiatry*, 8(10), 408-412.

<sup>2</sup> Fell, T. (2011). Explaining policy failure in Swedish game management. *Political Science Journal*, 113(2), 191-208.

<sup>3</sup> Grey et al. (2016). Positive behaviour support: What model of disability does it represent? *Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disability*, 41(3), 255-266.

<sup>4</sup> Nie, M. (2003). Drivers of natural resource-based political conflict. *Policy Sciences*, 36(3-4), 307-341.

<sup>5</sup> Torfing et al. (2012). The governance debate and the rise of interactive governance. In J. Torfing et al. (Eds.), *Interactive governance: Advancing the paradigm*.

<sup>6</sup> Hardwick & Cooper. (2015). How do third sector organisations use research and other knowledge? A systematic scoping review. *Implementation Science*, 10:84

<sup>7</sup> Bach-Mortensen et al. (2018). Barriers and facilitators to implementing evidence-based interventions among third sector organisations: a systematic review. *Implementation Science*, 13:103