

## Reflective questions

Are there incidents from your own life that you can recall where assumptions have been made about a particular behaviour of yours? For example in your adolescence where a parent or other adult was unable to understand why it was worth spending all your money on a particular item, or dressing in a particular (unconventional) way or eating and drinking in a way they felt unhealthy? Yet were anyone to have asked you, it is very likely that you would have been able to explain why it was imperative for you; for example, so that you would fit in with your peer group, or to demonstrate an adult level of independence.

Similarly, consider now either:

- a) Why a couple in their late 30s may pursue every avenue available to try and conceive their own baby, despite enormous expense and disruption to their daily lives. If you were designing a qualitative study to help explain what motivated them how might you go about it? What reasons, explanations or beliefs do you imagine they hold.

Or:

- b) Imagine you are in a large food store/supermarket and the person behind you has a basket full of food currently regarded as unhealthy. What reasons might they have for this?

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**What do you think was the added value that a mixed methods research design brought to this study? Were there some things the research team might never have discovered if they had only used one method of data collection?**

**Jot down a quick list of the possible advantages and disadvantages of having a mixed methods research design.**