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Designing a Research Project

http:

LINK

A very useful website based on Clive Seale's edited book *Researching Society and Culture is:*

www.rscbook.co.uk

This paper shows how you can use the Internet to recruit people for an interview study.

Qualitative Health Research, 18 (2): 268–79 (2008)

DOI: 10.1177/1049732307312832

<http://qhr.sagepub.com/cgi/reprint/18/2/268>

Online Dating and Mating: The Use of the Internet to Meet Sexual Partners

Danielle Couch and Pranee Liamputtong, La Trobe University, Australia

PODCAST

It's No Skin Off My Nose: Why People Take Part in Qualitative Health Research Published 25 January 2008

www.ipp-shr.cqu.edu.au/podcasts/?id=11&podcastType=1

In this podcast, a researcher talks about why people agree to participate in qualitative research.

2 part one Theory and Method in Qualitative Research

Since 1999, blogs have become a significant part of online culture. In this paper, Nicholas Hookway considers how you can treat the 'blogosphere' as data. His work is discussed further in Chapter 7 of this book.

Qualitative Research, 8 (1), 91–113 (2008)

DOI: 10.1177/1468794107085298

<http://qrj.sagepub.com/cgi/reprint/8/1/91>

'Entering the blogosphere': some strategies for using blogs in social research

Nicholas Hookway, University of Tasmania at Launceston, Australia

EXERCISE

If you are considering interviewing people face to face, assess what you would gain and lose by using the Internet as an alternative source of data.

In this paper, Pertti Alasuutari answers this question by applying a constructionist model to research in cultural studies.

How can you seek to build a theory while doing a qualitative case study?

Qualitative Inquiry, 2 (4), 371–384 (1996)

DOI: 10.1177/107780049600200401

<http://qix.sagepub.com/cgi/reprint/2/4/371>

Theorizing in Qualitative Research: A Cultural Studies Perspective

Pertti Alasuutari, University of Tampere, Finland

EXERCISE

Try to apply Alasuutari's discussion to a research project you might undertake. What theory or theories could your data analysis help to build?

EXERCISE

- Which analytical model (e.g. positivist, emotionalist, constructionist) does your research project presuppose?
- Reframe your problem in terms of a different model and consider the gains and losses of such reframing.

Sometimes social theory can appear to be abstract and daunting. In this paper, N.S. Mauthner and A. Doucet discuss how basic theoretical issues arose and were settled during their PhD dissertations.

Sociology, 37 (3): 413–31 (2003)

DOI: 10.1177/00380385030373002

<http://soc.sagepub.com/cgi/reprint/37/3/413>

Reflexive Accounts and Accounts of Reflexivity in Qualitative Data Analysis

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Key words: data analysis • epistemology • methodology • methods • ontology • qualitative research • reflexivity



TIP

Students often err by assuming that 'theory' is best done from the armchair while speculating upon great philosophical problems. By contrast, theorising is best accomplished by thinking through the implications of how you have gathered and analysed your data.

WEB LINKS

Social Theory Research Network (European Sociological Association):
www.social-theory.eu

Social Theory Pages:
www.socialtheory.info

e-Source: Chapter 3 on 'Theory development' by Stephen Turner:
www.esourceresearch.org

Social theory and the study of popular culture:
www.theory.org.uk