# 8

## **Texts**

http

#### LINK

https://academicskills.anu.edu.au/resources/handouts/writing-document-analysis This link gives you good, basic advice on what questions to think about when you are doing document analysis.

http:

#### LINK

This link gives you basic information about the range of methods that can be used in document analysis:

http://qualitativeresearch.ratcliffs.net/15methods.pdf

http

#### LINK

Further useful links on analysing documents:

Text analysis resources:

www.textanalysis.info/

Document Analysis Worksheets from the US National Archives and Records Administration:

www.archives.gov/education/lessons/worksheets/

http;

#### LINK

This link gives you a basic understanding of content analysis:

http://pareonline.net/getvn.asp?v=7&n=17

Too often, qualitative researchers use documents as mere background material. In this paper, Lindsay Prior shows you how to think about using documentary material as basic data.

Sociology, 42 (5): 821–36 (2008) DOI: 10.1177/0038038508094564

http://soc.sagepub.com/cgi/reprint/42/5/821 Repositioning Documents in Social Research Lindsay Prior, Queen's University Belfast

#### **EXERCISE**

Not every document you come across in your research has to be treated as a set of true or false statements. Take any one document relevant to your topic and ask:

- How has the document been put together to make its statements seem credible?
- What can you learn from this about how the topics you are concerned with are being 'constructed' by the authors of this document?
- Where could you find other documents which might construct these 'facts' differently?

The Internet is a wonderful resource for texts. In this paper, Nicholas Hookway examines the significance of the 'blogosphere' as a new addition to the qualitative researcher's toolkit and some of the practical, theoretical, ethical and methodological issues that arise from this.

Qualitative Research, 8: 91 (2008): http://qrj.sagepub.com/content/8/1/91

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

Nicholas Hookway, University of Tasmania



### LINK

Useful information about MCD studies can be found at The International Institute for Ethnomethodology and Conversation Analysis: www.iiemca.org

and at:

Ethno/CA news