

Lecture Notes

Week Two: 7th of August - 13th of August

Ethics in Research

- What is ethics?
- Ethics is concerned with the establishment of a set of moral standards that govern behavior in a particular setting for a particular group
- Ethical research is therefore concerned with ensuring that ethical principles and values always govern research involving humans. Barnes (1979:16) argues that ethical decisions arise when we try to decide between one course of action and another - not in terms of expediency or efficiency, but by reference to standards of what is morally right or wrong
- Understanding the power of the research over the researched is critical to understanding the ethical concerns that accompany social research
- The power of researchers often contrasts with that of their study population, who may be drawn from disadvantaged sections of society
- There are three stakeholders in the research: the researcher, the researched and the organization
- You have to think about who you research for, because that will effect how you scaffold the rest of your research
- History of Ethics and Research
- Nuremberg Code: "Directives for human experimentation." Developed in 1947 this document set out what were to become the basic principles for ethical research on human beings.
- Why is this so?
- The Nuremberg Code was introduced after the Nuremberg trials. In these trials, Nazi doctors were convicted of the crimes committed during human experiments on concentration camp prisoners. It attempted to give clear rules about what was legal and what was not when conducting human experiments.
- Still, to this day, still guides American research practice as it ethically guides experiments conducted on human beings
- Research has to strive towards a positive outcome i.e. in conducting the research we will learn something that will benefit society
- Research should be based upon a previous research project or a precedential study, it should be build upon previous knowledge

- Similarly, people should be able to withdraw consent at any moment, they should be allowed to not participate in research - and similarly, if the participant withdraws their consent they you cannot use data gathered in that interview

Tutorial Notes

Week One: 31st of July - 6th of August

N/A

Week Two: 7th of August - 13th of August

Rigor - reliability and validity, credibility and authenticity
Where your research falls in a field of knowledge

Textbook: read pages 25 - 27 importantly

Week Three: 14th of August - 20th of August

Reflexivity

Class: feel privileged in going to a private school, but also how the money my dad spent on my education often meant that I didn't have access to other things growing up, also living in a lower SES area with people, but still having access to greater social mobility - knowing how to code switch

Race: often perceived as white, cultural disconnect from my parents as well as Australian-ness

Gender/sexuality: not sure my fluidity is ever

Disability: I am able-bodied and mostly neuro-typical, there are experiences of the world that I cannot understand, nor do they ever occur to me

Research Question: how is space used, when watching sports on a TV in a pub

Reading Notes

Week One: 31st of July - 6th of August

**Liamputtong, Pranee (2013). Qualitative Research Methods (4th ed.)
Melbourne: Oxford University Press. Chapter 1. Theoretical Frameworks
and Sampling in Qualitative Research (pp. 5-13)**

- Methodological Frameworks in Qualitative Research
- researchers need to provide their 'methodological justification' by discussing the reason why they select a particular method in their research" p. 6
- "without methodological frameworks, the rigour and value of qualitative research can be weakened" p. 6
- Ethnography

- “ethnography is based on the premise that through extensive and prolonged interaction with research participants, researchers will be able to understand the way individuals express their values, beliefs, and actions in and through culture.... Such an account is a standard form of reporting for an ethnographic study. It is referred to as ‘thick description’... ‘a cultural account that emphasizes descriptive details” p. 7
- Phenomenology
- Schuts – introduced phenomenology to American sociology
- Symbolic Interactionism
- “symbolic interactionism is a framework that emphasizes the essence of meaning and interpretation as crucial human processes” p. 9
- Hermeneutics
- Hermeneutics – the theory of interpretation (quoting Patton 2002: 113) “what something means depends on the cultural context in which it was originally created as well as the cultural context within which it is subsequently interpreted” p. 10
- Feminist methodology
- “Feminist researchers tend to admit unashamedly that the process of carrying out their research transforms them in some ways. In feminist scholarship, the researcher’s emotional closeness to the research is made public” p. 12