Discerning Quality in Qualitative Research

Dr. Annamary Consalvo, Associate Professor The University of Texas at Tyler 3:00pm, Friday, January 19, 2024

Series offered by The Office of Research, Scholarship, and Sponsored Programs (ORSSP)

This workshop will explore...

...ways in which we can evaluate whether and how qualitative studies that we read (or write) "get it right" (Stake, 1995, p. 107).

How do we know "what's good"

in qualitative research?

In this session, requested by UT Tyler scholars, we will learn about particular indicators of highquality work, look at examples, and in small groups, make assessments of published work.

- 1. Please enter your name, position and department in the chat.
- 2. This presentation will take about 30-40 minutes which will then allow for discussion and questions.
- 3. Please hold your questions until the end and/or put them in the chat.

Agenda

*Review *Discussion of 10 terms *Examples *Small Group Work *Individual Experiences *Discussion

And... you can visit the <u>resources bank of</u> <u>the ORSS</u>. See especially several excellent **recorded webinars** on Qualitative Research by multiple people.

QUICK REVIEW....ATTRIBUTES OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH



Great overall beginner text: Merriam, S., & Tisdell, E. A. (2016). *Qualitative research: A guide to design and implementation* (4th ed.). John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

QUICK REVIEW:

Qualitative Research seeks to

Examine perceptions, motivations, and experiences that are significant (meaningful) to people

Explore **social processes**, not probabilities or predictions

Analyze **texts** (written word, images), **talk** (spoken word, conversations), and **interactions** (encounters, events) --rather than numbers and statistics,

<u>More information?</u> Visit the <u>resources bank of the ORSS</u>. See especially several excellent recorded webinars on Qualitative Research.

An excellent text for better understanding of coding and qualitative analysis: Saldaña, J. (2016). The coding manual for qualitative researchers (3rd ed.). SAGE.

Must read, and read some more. Many helpful books and articles out there.

Qualitative Research that's written up: Is it good?

Ten Areas of What to Look for in Determining Quality of Qualitative Research. (Anderson, 2017...linked below)

- Problem statement
- Sampling Strategy
- Member Checking
- Peer Debriefing
- Reflexivity
- Ethical Issues
- Transferability (versus "Generalizability") "Thick description"
- Prolonged Engagement
- Audit Trail
- Triangulation

• Anderson, V. (2017). Criteria for evaluating qualitative research [editorial]. *Human* <u>Resource Development Quarterly, 28(2), 125-133.</u>

Example

- Maloch, B. (2008). Beyond exposure: The uses of informational text in a second grade classroom. *Research in the Teaching of English, 42(3),* 315-362.
- <u>2008 Purves Award Winner</u> Article linked.

CREDIBILITY Completeness & accuracy of the data	ANALYZABILITY Completeness & accuracy of the analysis & interpretations	TRANSPARENCY Completeness & disclosure in the final document
Scope (Representation: coverage, sampling, sample size, unit nonresponse) Data Gathering (construct validity, inter- researcher reliability, question-answer validity, internal consistency, researcher bias, researcher-participant interaction, item nonresponse)	Processing (transcriptions, coding) Verification (peer debriefings, reflexive journal, triangulation, deviant cases)	Reporting (thick descriptions, rich details, enabling the reader to determine applicability – transferability – to other contexts)
	ANALYSIS	REPORTING
	USEFULNESS	
	to do something of value with the out a new insights, actionable next steps, a	
Support or rejection of current	t hypotheses and/or emergence of new	hypotheses
Validity of the interpretations	and recommendations to the extent the	ey are supported by the methodology
Transferability of the research	to the extent that the documentation d	liscloses its strengths and limitations

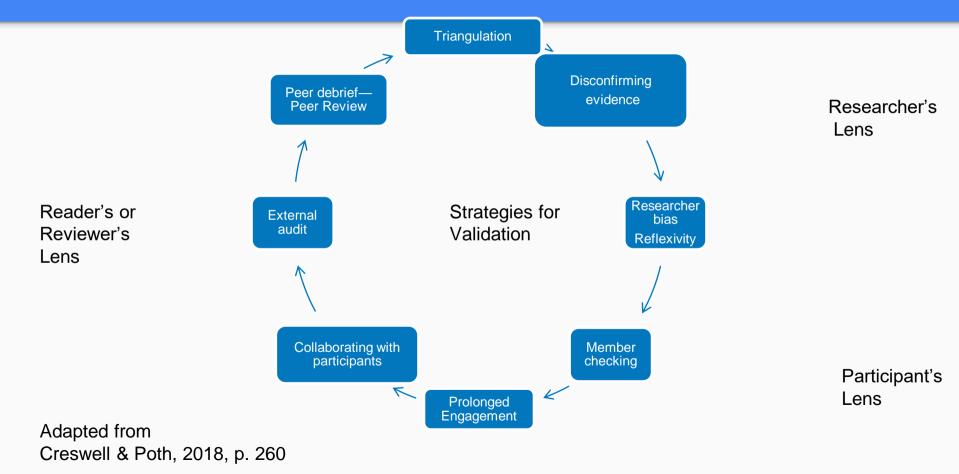
Roller, M. R., & Lavrakas, P. J. (2015). Applied qualitative research design: A total quality framework approach. New York: Guilford Press.

Next: Your turn – get into groups of 2 or 3, by article, and see if you can find some features of high quality in your shared article.....notes into shared Google Doc (10 min).

- Anderson, E. H., & Spencer, M. H. (2002).
 Cognitive representations of AIDS: A phenomenological study. *Qualitative health research*, *12*(10), 1338-1352.
- Frelin, A. (2015). Relational underpinnings and professionality–a case study of a teacher's practices involving students with experiences of school failure. School Psychology International, 36(6), 589-604.

- Mac an Ghaill, M., & Haywood, C. (2015). British-born Pakistani and Bangladeshi young men: Exploring unstable concepts of Muslim, Islamophobia and racialization. *Critical Sociology*, 41(1), 97-114. (ethnography)
- <u>Shared Google Doc here to type into</u>

Another way of looking at strategies for validation in qualitative research





Discussion of what you found

Questions? Experiences to share?

Thank you for attending. I am happy to talk with you on an individual basis.

You can schedule a meeting HERE or if those times don't work, email me at aconsalvo@uttyler.edu



Visit the <u>resources bank of the ORSS</u>. See especially several excellent recorded webinars on Qualitative Research.