

Qualitative research approach

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Abstract

This paper examines different approaches to qualitative research as was understood from the article read that explore different methods used by researchers to conduct qualitative research. The articles range from the phenomenological approach to qualitative research, nature of qualitative research and religious and psychological aspect of conducting qualitative research. The reviews of this articles contain the content of the individual article, the importance as well as the negative impact that particular approach to research may bring to the qualitative research study.

The assignment is to identify the various qualitative research approaches used in each of the three articles. Then compare and contrast each of the research approaches, identifying the strengths and weaknesses of these approaches to qualitative research.

The qualitative articles read for this week's assignment all showed potential in their unique way. They all had a clear message to help someone that was willing to engage in doing a qualitative research study because they were arranged in ways that help to emphasize the flow of practicing the art of research.

A way of Seeing People and Places: phenomenology in Environment-Behavior Research

In this study Seamon (2000) explores different ways of explaining how phenomenological study may be used to expound on issues in architecture. In the article, there is a proper articulation of the entire process of the researcher where the researcher explains about the steps that were taken in researching completion. The article also stipulated various historical developments that have taken place as different researchers sort to explore and understand the phenomenological method of research.

As stated in the title, the study uses phenomenology research design and uses people's experiences to help give meaning and more profound understanding of aspects of the study. Creswell (2013) believes that phenomenology is commonly used where a researcher seeks to capture human experiences that are similar to some people.

The study is very intriguing and easy to understand because the author explains each detail in the research in a way that the reader can understand and follow the flow of information as well as understand why the information rendered is important to the study as well as to the intended group of people that will read it. Lichtman (2013) states that phenomenology has helped in various fields of geography especially in researching gaps that occur in certain

disciplines which may have been considered unimportant to research because they didn't have much to do with the public and patriarchal study of geography.

Phenomenology can be complicated at times because truth is taken from the perception of those being studied, because people are different and their views are different a researcher may be wrong in assuming a certain perspective because a perspective of one does not reflect the perspective of all. Munhall (2000) "Truth is an interpretation of some phenomenon, the more shared that interpretation is, the more factual it seems to be, yet it remains temporal and cultural" (p. 10).

It is hard to replicate phenomenology. As read in Seamon's description phenomenology is about perception, therefore, making it almost unimportant source because one cannot generalize the experience of a certain situation to fit another situation.

Nature of Qualitative Research: Development and Perspectives article

This article describes various aspects that are used when conducting qualitative research methods of inquiry. It brings light to a variety of ideas on ways of breaking down qualitative research regarding its development. The article has a great deal of information to help understand the benefits as well as the biases of different approaches. It also provides history of various methods in that helps future researchers get an understanding of the roots of certain research designs.

This research also provides a great deal of information regarding how far different research design methods have come. It also shows a perspective of how a researcher can apply mixed methods in conducting research. Holloway and Wheeler (2002) state that the reason for using mixed methods is to ensure that one explores a particular problem from different angles or different aspects of a phenomenon.

Qualitative methods and ‘the (partly) ineffable’ in psychological research on religion and spirituality

This article focusses on the relationship that exists between psychology and religion over the years. In the study Coyle (2008) states that the study of psychology and religion has led to a variety of question about the connection between the two and how they can be used in research. The research also tells the importance of being aware of what one is asking and using it as a tool to identify the best method to use.

Religious, psychological research is very important because it gives meaning and a sense of understanding the unexplainable. Psychological research provides the researcher with in-depth information on the subjects of study and allows the research to have a clear view of areas of study that would not have been discovered. Nelson (2010) states that for some author qualitative research on the study of holistic nature of spirituality can be captured better through qualitative research.

Religious, psychological research can render the researcher with important information that can help with further exploration of the research. Belzen and Hood (2006) the qualitative research method is considered to be particularly good at coming up with ideas and possible models that can be very useful and may become a subject of quantitative research.

Psychology and religion provide a bond in which people can relate both in either field. Both the religious and the psychological points of view deal with human behavior and the capacity for change. According to Reis, and Judd (2000) psychological research is conducted mainly to attain more thorough and accurate learning of human behavior, without having a focus on a specific experiment of a problem.

Qualitative research is a good method of conducting research and should always be utilized appropriately to ensure that the best results are obtained through the research. By using the best methodology to conduct research, one ensures that the people that will reference the study in future reference quality work. Coyle stated that we need to remember that what determines the quality of a research study is not the method used but the appropriateness of that method to the research questions, the skill with which the method is applied and the way in which data are interpreted in light of appropriate theoretical concepts". (p. 3)

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