Qualitative research in international settings: a practical guide


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Abstract

The teaching of qualitative research skills in universities is now widespread and the number of institutions offering courses in research methods in education and the social sciences is growing, while professionals in the fields of education, health and the social services are increasingly required to carry out research, evaluation and reviews. Qualitative Research in International Settings will be an invaluable resource for all postgraduates and professionals engaged in this type of research. Drawing upon the author's extensive experience of educational research in the Developing World, the book focuses upon working in a variety of cultural and national contexts. It combines the practice and theory of qualitative research by clarifying and communicating the core ideas and principles of this form of research, and highlighting specific case studies as models of good practice.

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methods, but compared with data collection and analysis, its processes are discussed relatively little. This article presents theoretical and practical concerns within the framework of four ‘pan-paradigmatic’ points: (1) setting a sample universe, (2) selecting a sample size, (3) devising a sample strategy and (4) sample sourcing. Table 1 summarises the principle features of these. All of the aforementioned methods can be used in conjunction with this four-point approach to sampling.