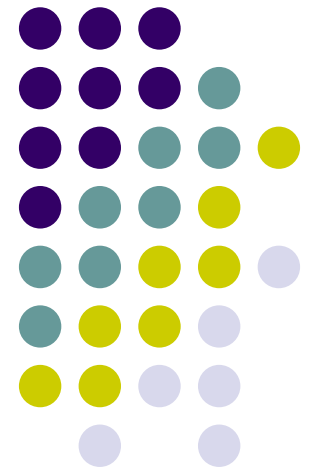


Introduction to qualitative analysis of in-depth interviews

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Program

- Some words about qualitative research
- Recall of basics principles of in-depth interview methodology in qualitative research
 - About the setting
 - About the interviewer's attitude
 - About the interview and recollection of data
- Basics of qualitative analysis



About qualitative research...

- Qualitative research in a constructing, deconstructing, process, sensitive to the subjectivity of the person interviewed and of the researcher and which is culturally, socially and historically determined
- Object of interest:
 - meanings, description of a situation, of an experience, understanding of a subjective and lively phenomenon
 - investigating new areas and complexity of the human
 - ~~incidence, prevalence, correlation~~
 - ~~Generalization of results~~
- Question of validity, reliability
- Sampling and the **saturation** process

The setting



- Put the person who is interviewed in a comfortable, secure and trustful position (as much as possible!)
- Ensure privacy
- Provide an informed consent (explaining objectives of the study, confidentiality, reference persons, procedure)



Interviewer's attitude

- The interviewer is a FACILITATOR who encourage the person to speak by :
 - NEUTRALITY,
 - Do not induce responses or attitudes
 - Non judgmental attitude (be careful of your body language!)
 - EMPATHY AND INTERPERSONAL HABILITIES
 - Words like: mmhh, yes, ...
 - Reformulating and “you said that...?”, “did you mean...?”
“as I understand - repeat what the person said -”, or simply by picking a word or sentence and repeat it.
 - SUPPORTIVE (WHEN NEEDED)

Interview



- Questions should be open enough and precise enough
 - to give the person the place and the opportunity to speak and develop his/her ideas.
 - The structure and content of what you want to explore (even if adaptable) should be precise, at list in interviewer's mind
- Audiotape if possible
- Take notes after the interview (impressions, changes in behaviors or attitude that won't appear in the verbatim, resume what has been said during and after interview...)
- Transcript (or verbatim)
 - Exact reproduction of the interview, with every words and sounds... and silences

Basics for analyzing a transcript of an in-depth interview



- Method depend on the theoretical and methodological background
 - We will present some common aspects of methodologies like
 - GROUNDED THEORY and symbolic interactionism (what common set of symbols and understandings have emerged to give meaning to people's interaction?)
 - INTERPRETATIVE PHENOMENOLOGICAL ANALYSIS (what is the structure and essence of experience of this phenomenon for this people?)
 - THEMATICAL ANALYSIS
 - Methodologies like discourse analysis will not be presented here

Analyzing basics



1. **Read** (more than one interview if possible)
2. **First level of coding: identify themes, units of meaning** (words, sentences...) as the person express them
Be as close as possible to the text, use the words of the person, do not use theoretical concepts by now, be empirical and facts oriented
3. **Second level of coding: reformulate in more theoretical words**
4. **Third level of coding = analyzing** : construct a model of understanding by looking for coherence, differences, hierarchical structures ... (depending on what you are looking for)

Some comments...



1. Go back to the empirical data, the text, at every step, don't hesitate to code, recode and reread if necessary. Compare verbatim with interviewer's notes.
2. Let meaning emerge don't push for it (by forcing into a theoretical perspective), it's a long and deconstructing process in which empirical data come first.
3. Words and rhetorical structures have a meaning, a connotation which give sense to the text.
4. The new, the disruptive answer, is as important as the more common one.
5. There are two dimensions: vertical one (who cross the different interviews) and an horizontal one (each interview, each subject, has is own coherence and structure of meanings)



Practical exercise

In groups of 3

- Read
- First coding
- Second coding

Of the excerpt of an interview on bisexual experiences with a 36 years old man, originating from Haiti and living in Montreal-Canada (translated from French)