

### **Qualitative Research in Practice: Examples** for Discussion and Analysis

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Qualitative research (QR) is the method of inquiry that seeks to understand social phenomena within the context of the participants' perspectives and experiences. The research methods of QR are more flexible, responsive, and open to contextual interpretation than in quantitative research, which uses inventory, questionnaire, or numerical data to draw conclusions. In Qualitative Research in Practice, Sharan Merriam combines discussions of the types of QR with examples of research studies and reflections by the researchers themselves. An important resource for students and practitioners of QR, the book may be used as a companion to any general text on QR.



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#### Review

- "...will undoubtedly grace the bookshelves of qualitative researchers for years to come." (*TCRecord.org*, 10/29/02)
- "...Merriam crafted a niche book that complements the many theoretical, how-to, and case study inquiry books...." (*Journal of College Student Development*, August 2003)

#### From the Back Cover

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Edited by Sharan B. Merriam, a leader in the field of qualitative research, Qualitative Research in Practice

- Presents the basic information about the nature of qualitative research
- Includes a discussion and guidelines for assessing and evaluating qualitative research
- Offers a handy resource for all those interested in qualitative research regardless of discipline or experience
- Exemplifies various types of qualitative research
- Includes commentaries by article authors reflecting on their personal experience in engaging in qualitative research

This book is a valuable resource for students and practitioners in all fields where qualitative research is conducted, including social work, psychology, counseling, management, education, healthcare, and more.

#### About the Author

Sharan B. Merriam is a professor of adult education at the University of Georgia in Athens. She is the author, coauthor or editor of more than fifteen books on adult education and/or qualitative research including Learning in Adulthood, Lifelines, The Profession and Practice of Adult Education, Qualitative Research and Case Study Applications in Education and The New Update on Adult Learning Theory.

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