



Qualitative Research in Action: A Canadian Primer (Themes in Canadian Sociology)

By Deborah K. van den Hoonaard

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Qualitative Research in Action is an introduction to qualitative research methods for undergraduate students who do not have experience with doing qualitative research. The book provides both a discussion of the theoretical underpinnings of qualitative research and practical advice to help students apply the methods described.

The textbook begins by explaining the inductive approach used by qualitative researchers in their research, helping students learn how the questions they ask determine the answers they find. It also includes several chapters illustrating how to develop research questions and how to apply various methods of collecting data to address those questions. Using numerous examples drawn from researchers' actual strategies and experiences, *Qualitative Research in Action* includes discussions of observation, in-depth interviews, and analysis of pre-existing documents. The text completes its walkthrough of the research process by showing students how to analyze their data and write effective research reports. These chapters also include lively examples and many hints about how to go about these challenging processes. The text concludes with a chapter on new directions in qualitative research followed by a chapter that explores the ethical dimensions of doing this type of research.

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Editorial Review

Review

"The book is well thought out, well organized, and written with great care and passion by someone who clearly values the quality of their students' learning experience." --Susan Cox, University of British Columbia

"[The text] is written in a very student-friendly style, and the author clearly wants to present qualitative methods to the students as something that they can do and not be afraid of." --Lesley D. Harman, King's University College at the University of Western Ontario

About the Author

Deborah K. van den Hoonaard is Professor of Gerontology at St. Thomas University. She is also a tier II Canada Research Chair in Qualitative Research and Analysis, and Associate Director of the Chronic Illness Research Institute, of which she is a founding member.

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