Chapter 1 : The legal response to domestic violence â€" The WritePass Journal : The WritePass Journal

use of multiple measure of the same concept test-retest method is a means of determining reliability in which the same instrument is administered twice to the same population.

More recently, there have been a number of statutes put in place that can further aid the police in their response to domestic violence and more importantly they enable them to treat incidents within the family between spouses as they would incidents that happen on the street between strangers. Statistics also show that between July and September there was a five percent increase in sexual offences which is in comparison to the same period of the previous year Home Office, However, according to Stanko even though only a small minority of victims report domestic violence to the police, with figures showing around 40 percent actually being reported to the police Dodd et al, ; Walby and Allen, ; Home Office, , they still on average receive one phone call every minute regarding domestic violence incidents in the UK amounting to an average influx of 1, calls a day or , calls per year. The next chapter to follow is the literature review in which the definition and ranges of terminology will be explored from past to present as to demonstrate the changes that have taken place throughout the years along with the apparent lack of coherence that have caused many researchers great difficulty when researching this particular area. Whilst the police response is of great importance to this dissertation, it is not solely directed at one single agency and the literature review will go on critically analyse the legislation, both civil and criminal, currently in place and legislation that was previously used to give an over view of the legal response as a whole and how it has changed alongside the changes in the police response. The final part of the literature review will look at rates of reporting and non-reporting of incidents to the police and examine whether or not there has been an increase of reported incidents since new legislation has been introduced and changes in police practices have happened or if there is still a reluctance by the victims to report it that has been evident in previous times. Kashani and Allen commented upon this and stated that due to the sheer complexity of the issue, in terms of its elements i. Dutton, in Melton, Finally, there was the view held that victims would be reluctant to cooperate and would eventually withdraw their allegations and drop the charges in due course. With regards to police responses, a further circular published by the Home Office in Home Office, gave more suggestions of effective working practices when dealing with domestic violence incidents and made it clear that it was of paramount importance to ensure and maintain the safety of the victim and also any children within the home. Changes in response finally came about with a circular to chief constables in Home Office, with the aim of it being to urge the police to develop explicit force policies and develop specialist domestic violence units in all 43 forces. Harriet Harmen, former Minister for Women and Equality, in the Government paper summarised and re-stated the main problems taken from the Home Office publication that the Government needed to tackle. Radical feminists perceive the family and marriage as the key institutions of oppression in society as the males appear to dominate the women through domestic abuse or by merely threatening the act, because of this, Millet and Firestone go on to argue that all societies have been founded on patriarchy and they see the male as being the enemy who exploit and oppress women in society. In their opinion, the patriarchal society is the chief element in explaining the reluctance of the police to investigate incidents of domestic abuse effectively in previous years and that for this to be abolished the patriarchal society needs to be overturned so that woman can live independently from the males. The Protection from Harassment Act also saw measures introduced which provided a link between civil and criminal law. As mentioned before s. Section 4 proved to be particularly useful, despite there already being police powers under criminal law in existence, the powers in place only related to fear of actual physical violence whereas s. The Domestic Violence Crime and Victims Act which was introduced in aimed to protect victims of domestic violence by firstly making common assault an arrestable offence which has since been repealed by s. Secondly, the Act made a breach of a non-molestation order not only arrestable but also a criminal offence and finally the Act was also concerned with widening the scope of the civil law in cases of

domestic violence as it was particularly evident that the remedies available were designed and implemented for married opposite sex couples, which, as a result, left cohabiting same sex couples experiencing exactly the same treatment but more importantly with a feeling that there was nothing that could be done about it. The Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates Court Act sought to aid the use of injunctions as a preventative for added violence to the victim by the perpetrator whilst the Matrimonial Homes Act was focused on simplifying the powers to cease the rights of the violence partner to live in the matrimonial home. The piece of legislation that was to be selected to aid the protection of the victim was dependant on a number of factors, for example, whether the parties were married or not and also if she lived with her abuser. The introduction of the Family Law Act FLA , particularly part IV, sought to eradicate the mess and confusion caused by the three earlier pieces of legislation with regards to imposing injunctions. The legislation itself, under part IV, introduced a concise set of remedies whilst widening the scope of eligibility to a wider range of family members, which since then have been extended further under the Domestic Violence Crime and Victims Act Under the Family Law Act there are two main types of injunctions that can be applied for under part IV. This proved to be a useful tool, particularly for those who were either married, in a civil partnership, were cohabitants or even former cohabitants and tried to encompass a number of different types of relations and circumstances in the pursuit of combating not only physical violence but also intimidation and harassment from the perpetrator. A breach of such order is a criminal offence under the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act , and, if found guilty, the perpetrator can expect to receive a five year prison sentence on indictment, the aim of it being to reinforce and strengthen existing civil injunctions. Another form of injunction made available under s. An occupation order maintains and controls which party is to occupy either their present, former or intended home. To apply for this order the applicant must satisfy the requirement of entitlement under s. Thus, it would be much harder for a cohabiting couple to show an interest in the property in comparison to those who are married or in a civil partnership as it is of the assumption that virtually all spouses will have at least some interest. As a result, it illuminates the issue of domestic violence as not being taken seriously by the criminal justice agencies and further highlights the problems many women face when exploring resolution via the criminal justice system and is supportive of what Hester and Westmarland found, that as little as five percent of domestic violence result in conviction. In , a study by Grace et al. A second point was that the police and the crown prosecution service made decisions about whether or not they would proceed to prosecute, again leaving the victim in a predicament that was totally our of their hands. Finally, a third attrition point lay with the jury on whether they would choose to convict the defendant and according to Grace et al. Throughout the years this has led to a culmination of reasons why many women may not have reported incidents of domestic violence and amongst these reasons there is one common denominator; the police response. Methodology This dissertation is concerned with the legal response to incidents of domestic violence, starting from a historical perspective and moving through to a present day view of how effective the legal response is in dealing with such incidents. It has become to be an area of particular interest to myself as it incorporates an extremely important issue of domestic violence from the discipline of Criminology along with the application of relevant legislation from the discipline of Law. Given the sensitive nature of the topic area being researched, it was felt that the use of secondary sources to conduct this dissertation would be the most appropriate type of source to use and would automatically eradicate any ethical issues that would inevitably arise if primary research were to be conducted. Conducting secondary research also has many practical advantages; the main being that it has already been collected and, as aforesaid, diverts past any ethical implications that may arise from primary research, especially in a topic area as sensitive as domestic violence. The use of secondary sources also enables comparisons to be made between historical findings along with present day findings therefore providing a comparative and an overall picture of any trends that there may be. More specifically, secondary data analysis as a research method enables the combining of not only quantitative data but also qualitative data and overall will provide a detailed look at the changing response to incidents of domestic violence from a wealth of literature already surrounding the area, both historical and recent, along with government papers

detailing rates of reporting to the police reflecting victims perspectives of them as an agency. That is, by bringing together two approaches that equally have their own strengths and weaknesses can overall counter each other with their strengths and it is argued that if different methods draw to the same conclusions then this in itself makes for a stronger argument in that they are more plausible and credible Noaks and Wincup, Due to the nature and area being explored in this dissertation it was felt that adopting the use of secondary sources would be more compliant with the ethical considerations that underpin conducting research. According to Diener and Crandall , ethical considerations can be divided into four main areas. If primary research were to be conducted the two main areas for concern, according to the categories as set out by Diener and Crandall, would be the potential harm that could be caused to the participant in re-living psychologically painful and damaging events they may have been through for the purpose of this dissertation along with the inevitable invasion of their own personally privacy. However, this method of finding literature makes for the obtaining of unreliable sources more vulnerable and so for that reason only academic texts and journals were selected which covered area of domestic violence and the legal response and so provides a high quality of authority which is much more reliable. Naturally, only the most up to date texts were preferable but inevitably, with a topic area that requires comparatives to be made between historic views and contemporary views, many of the sources date back to the early eighties but is done so as to enable a critical analysis of area being researched. As a result of the literature search, the literature that was subsequently gained was done so by a snowball effect; identical to that of snowball sampling where one source leads to another and so forth. This, combined with the use of both governmental and non-governmental papers, again standing with high authority, enabled for a greater critical analysis between the issue of domestic violence and the legal response. Discussion The overriding purpose of this dissertation was to critically examine the legal response to incidents of domestic violence; that is, examine the full spectrum of responses ranging from the police, the legislation in place designed to aid the police and also initiatives put forward by the Government. As stated previously in chapter two, domestic violence has long been a problem amongst society and throughout history it appears to have fought against the odds to be recognised as being truly criminal, as it is clear that the physical elements alone mirror those that can be found in Offences Against the Person Act OAPA yet shockingly the issue appears to have been covertly tolerated by the agencies Berk et al. In terms of reducing domestic violence from a policing angle, it has been found that a clear definition of domestic violence is needed between the police and also the other agencies as to eradicate its lack of coherence that has been evident in previous times. Along with this, consistency in their response needs to be clearly visible, despite some Feminists arguing that approaches such as restorative justice make male violence against women somewhat lawful. Conclusion Drawing back to the beginning of this independent study, the overriding aim was to examine the legal response to incidents of domestic abuse by looking at the police response, the legislation available and finally the Governments standing on the issue itself. One aspect that has come to be particularly clear from the research is that in modern society today there are in fact Government initiatives in place alongside reams of legislation that can be utilised and used in conjunction with one another to aid the police in their own response and, overall, provide an effective legal response as a whole. What is needed is a multi-dimensional approach, that is, for each of the agencies, both voluntary and involuntary to work alongside each other and utilise the resources between them lawfully in order to pin-point particular areas for concern, much like that of triangulation used in the methodology of this independent study. For Webb et al. Bringing the cops back in: A study of efforts to make the criminal justice system more responsive to incidents of family violence. Social Science Research, 9, Summoning the police to the scene of spousal violence. Law and Society Review, 18 3 , Last accessed 13th Jan Neglect of a crime of violence. Journal of Criminal Justice, 12, The criminal justice response. Prosecuting the offender or persecuting the victim? University of Chicago Press. Home Office Statistical Bulletin. Psychological and criminal justice perspectives. Home Office Research Study No From recording to conviction, London: Legal remedies and the court system. 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Chapter 2 : Unobtrusive Measures - Management - Oxford Bibliographies

A researcher believes girls are more preoccupied with the way they dress than boys. Due to this assumption, he focuses his observations only on girls and their interactions with their friends, neglecting how boys present themselves to others.

Direct and participant observation require that the researcher be physically present. This can lead the respondents to alter their behavior in order to look good in the eyes of the researcher. A questionnaire is an interruption in the natural stream of behavior. Respondents can get tired of filling out a survey or resentful of the questions asked. Unobtrusive measurement presumably reduces the biases that result from the intrusion of the researcher or measurement instrument. However, unobtrusive measures reduce the degree the researcher has control over the type of data collected. For some constructs there may simply not be any available unobtrusive measures. Three types of unobtrusive measurement are discussed here. Indirect Measures An indirect measure is an unobtrusive measure that occurs naturally in a research context. The researcher is able to collect the data without introducing any formal measurement procedure. It may be possible to set up some type of mechanical measurement system that is invisible to the museum patrons. In one study, the system was simple. The museum installed new floor tiles in front of each exhibit they wanted a measurement on and, after a period of time, measured the wear-and-tear of the tiles as an indirect measure of patron traffic and interest. We might be able to improve on this approach considerably using electronic measures. We could, for instance, construct an electrical device that senses movement in front of an exhibit. Or we could place hidden cameras and code patron interest based on videotaped evidence. One of my favorite indirect measures occurred in a study of radio station listening preferences. Rather than conducting an obtrusive survey or interview about favorite radio stations, the researchers went to local auto dealers and garages and checked all cars that were being serviced to see what station the radio was currently tuned to. In a similar manner, if you want to know magazine preferences, you might rummage through the trash of your sample or even stage a door-to-door magazine recycling effort. These examples illustrate one of the most important points about indirect measures -- you have to be very careful about the ethics of this type of measurement. In doing so, you may be violating their right to privacy and you are certainly not using informed consent. Of course, some types of information may be public and therefore not involve an invasion of privacy. There may be times when an indirect measure is appropriate, readily available and ethical. Just as with all measurement, however, you should be sure to attempt to estimate the reliability and validity of the measures. For instance, collecting radio station preferences at two different time periods and correlating the results might be useful for assessing test-retest reliability. Or, you can include the indirect measure along with other direct measures of the same construct perhaps in a pilot study to help establish construct validity. Content Analysis Content analysis is the analysis of text documents. The analysis can be quantitative, qualitative or both. Typically, the major purpose of content analysis is to identify patterns in text. Content analysis is an extremely broad area of research. Thematic analysis of text The identification of themes or major ideas in a document or set of documents. The documents can be any kind of text including field notes, newspaper articles, technical papers or organizational memos. Indexing There are a wide variety of automated methods for rapidly indexing text documents. A computer program scans the text and indexes all key words. A key word is any term in the text that is not included in an exception dictionary. Typically you would set up an exception dictionary that includes all non-essential words like "is", "and", and "of". All key words are alphabetized and are listed with the text that precedes and follows it so the researcher can see the word in the context in which it occurred in the text. In an analysis of interview text, for instance, one could easily identify all uses of the term "abuse" and the context in which they were used. Quantitative descriptive analysis Here the purpose is to describe features of the text quantitatively. For instance, you might want to find out which words or phrases were used most frequently in the text. Again, this type of analysis is most often done directly with computer programs. Content analysis has several problems you should keep in mind. First, you are limited to the types of information available in text

form. If you are studying the way a news story is being handled by the news media, you probably would have a ready population of news stories from which you could sample. Second, you have to be especially careful with sampling in order to avoid bias. For instance, a study of current research on methods of treatment for cancer might use the published literature as the population. This would leave out both the writing on cancer that did not get published for one reason or another as well as the most recent work that has not yet been published. Finally, you have to be careful about interpreting results of automated content analyses. A computer program cannot determine what someone meant by a term or phrase. It is relatively easy in a large analysis to misinterpret a result because you did not take into account the subtleties of meaning. However, content analysis has the advantage of being unobtrusive and, depending on whether automated methods exist, can be a relatively rapid method for analyzing large amounts of text. Secondary Analysis of Data Secondary analysis, like content analysis, makes use of already existing sources of data. However, secondary analysis typically refers to the re-analysis of quantitative data rather than text. In our modern world there is an unbelievable mass of data that is routinely collected by governments, businesses, schools, and other organizations. Much of this information is stored in electronic databases that can be accessed and analyzed. In addition, many research projects store their raw data in electronic form in computer archives so that others can also analyze the data. Among the data available for secondary analysis is:

Chapter 3 : CiteSeerX â€" Citation Query Unobtrusive measures: An inventory of uses

Among the examples of unobtrusive measures Webb et al. proffer are the use of wear on the ï¬‚oor tiles surrounding a museum exhibit showing hatching chicks to measure visitor ï¬‚ows; the size of suits of armour as an.

Sandra Mathison Why Triangulate? Through correlational the validity of evaluation and research findings. Typically, analyses the independence of methods and traits can be through triangulating we expect various data sources and methods established. That this is not the case is obvious to most researchers issue in the evaluation literature as well. In particular, and evaluators. Given that this expectation is unrealistic, an alternaturalistic and qualitative approaches to evaluation have native perspective of triangulation is presented. This alternative demanded attention to controlling bias and establishing perspective takes into account that triangulation results in con- valid propositions because traditional scientific techniques vergent, inconsistent, and contradictory evidence that must be are incompatible with these alternate epistemologies. Guba rendered sensible by the researcher or evaluator. Establishing structural cor- G triangulate, tha! Regardless of which philosophical, roboration, which is ". Patton methods and sources of data in the execution of a study also emphasizes the centrality and problematic nature of in order to withstand critique by colleagues. The perimentally inclined are enjoined to use qualitative evaluator using different methods to investigate the same research methods to help conceptualize their studies and program should not expect that the findings generated by ethnographers are often expected to conduct surveys to those different methods will automatically come together corroborate observational data. We all agree that triangula- to produce some-nicely integrated whole" Patton, p. The issue explored in this understand when and why there are differences" p. The Triangulation is typically perceived to be a strategy for prominence of triangulation in discussions of naturalistic improving the validity of research or evaluation findings: It is essentially a strategy that will aid in the elimina- term "triangulation" in their treatise on nonreactive tion of bias and allow the dismissal of plausible rival ex- measures in the social sciences. In his explication of how to use triangulation as Campbell and Fiske in In this paper, Campbell and a research strategy, Denzin outlines four types of triangula- Fiske discuss establishing validity of measures through the tion: She specializes in program traits, several methods should be employed to measure evaluation and qualitative research methods. M A R C H 13 son, b investigator triangulation, c theory triangulation, the use of appropriate multiple methods will result in more and d methodological triangulation pp. In ac- valid research findings. Even be explicated in order to understand why a different con- Denzin questions the plausibility of such a notion in the ception of triangulation will be introduced later in this notes at the end of the chapter. First is the assumption that the bias inherent in any particular data source, investigator, and particularly My use of theoretical triangulation must in no way be method will be canceled out when used in conjunction construed as a defense of ecelecticism. Indeed, with other data sources, investigators, and methods. The sociologists committed to a given perspective will prob- second, and related, assumption is that when triangula- ably not employ theoretical triangulation. The great tion is used as a research strategy the result will be a con- value of this strategy, as I see it, however, is its vergence upon the truth about some social phenomenon. In this sense it method research design is a puzzling one that frequently is most appropriate for the theoretically uncommitted, goes unexamined. However, Denzin tion in a study of the effects of a merger on company em- expands the notion of data triangulation to include time ployees. Denzin explicates the value of five different and space based on the assumption that understanding a methods experiment, survey, participant observation, social p h e n o m e n o n requires its examination under a vari- unobtrusive methods, and historical methods given his ety of conditions. So, for example, to study the effect of theoretical perspective and the factors associated with in- an inservice program on teachers, one should observe ternal and external validity according to Campbell and teachers at different times of the school day or year and Stanley. This perhaps more than other types of triangula- will be cancelled out in an overall design. However, the deci- tive, that is, individuals make claims which are the sole sion about who these multiple

researchers should be and property of that person. How much hands-on ity illustrate some of the confusion here. In the qualitative sense of objectivity, curs as data are collected, are both relevant and not easily "[b]eing objective means that the observation is factual, answered questions. The quantitative no- of triangulation and refers to the use of multiple methods tion of objectivity seems to underlie discussions of tri- in the examination of a social phenomenon. So the use of any single method, just like the view angulation in assessing psychological traits. Multiple scales of any single individual, will necessarily be subjective and comprise a psychological assessment such as an intelligence therefore biased. Triangulation is the methodological test in an effort to assess the different aspects of in- counterpart to intersubjective agreement and, just as with telligence. The lie detector scale in some psychological in- individuals, reliability is confused with validity. The ventories is another example. Denzin suggests that the evidence produced by different methods might be different within-methods triangulation approach has limited value, because of bias in the measures but it is also possible that because essentially only one method is being used, and different methods tap different domains of knowing. Un- finds the between-methods triangulation strategy more til the argument that bias cancels itself out in a multi- satisfying. Other researchers seem to follow this lead and method design is more fully explicated, there seems little focus primarily on between methods triangulation. This It is with this type of triangulation that Denzin relies most assumption suggests that when a triangulation strategy is heavily on the work of Webb et al. And, if one examines the A second and probably more frequently occurring out- metaphors in discussions of triangulation it is apparent that come from a triangulation strategy is inconsistency among convergence on a point or object is the desired goal. When multiple sources, methods, and so on are example, in the commonly used navigational metaphor the employed we frequently are faced with a range of perspec- process involves using multiple reference points to deter- tives or data that do not confirm a single proposition about mine the location of yet another point, usually a place or a social phenomenon. Rather, the evidence presents alter- object. Military strategists use such a model in locating native propositions containing inconsistencies and am- enemy targets. So, given certain information one can ac- biguities. With this outcome it is not clear what the valid curately and accuracy is very important if one wants to claim or proposition about something is. It is possible not only ject. Extending this metaphor to social phenomena, the for data to be inconsistent but to actually be contradictory. This does not suggest that the metaphor itself makes If one were to accept the assumptions that triangulation researchers adhere to this assumption, but rather the should result in a single claim because bias is naturally metaphor used reflects the assumption and in its use rein- cancelled out, outcomes of the second and third type would forces the assumption. We all know, of Some researchers, and particularly those with a qual- course, this is not the case. The value of triangulation is Miles and Huberman pp. Using these forms of and better evidence from which researchers can construct work as metaphors suggests a different process for meaningfid propositions about the social world. The value of triangulating involving intuition, an ever-present degree triangulation lies in providing evidence such that the of uncertainty, and purposive human action. These are in- researcher can construct explanations of the social deed more descriptive metaphors which may or may not phenomena from which they arise. This section of the paper, drawing on the evaluation of the mathematics project previously mentioned, gives an An Alternative Conception of Triangulation example of each of the three possible outcomes from a The second part of this paper will outline an alternative triangulation strategy. The outcomes are not, however, an reason for using a triangulation strategy which does not end in themselves. The researcher is left with the task of rely on the assumptions discussed above. The examples making sense of the evidence regardless of what the out- in this part of this paper are based on the evaluation of come is. So whether the data converge, are inconsistent, a large scale mathematics curriculum and teacher develop- or are contradictory the researcher must attempt to con- ment project. This project provided ample opportunity to struct explanations for the data and about the data. Follow- employ triangulation, and while the outcome was occas- ing each of the examples is a possible, and hopefully plausi- sionally convergence upon a single conclusion, more fre- ble, explanation for the data presented. The value of tri- quently the outcome was inconsistent findings or, on some angulation lies in

providing evidence--whether con- occasions, contradictory findings. I suspect the degree to vergent, inconsistent, or contradictory--such that the which these alternative outcomes occurred in this particular researcher can construct good explanations of the social evaluation, which actually included four different projects, phenomena from which they arise. When data from different sources or col- In practice, triangulation as a strategy provides a rich and lected from different methods agree, the outcome is complex picture of some social phenomenon being studied, convergence. A teacher development project attempted, among of what is the case. I suggest that triangulation as a strategy other goals, to increase the amount of time teachers spent provides evidence for the researcher to make sense of some teaching mathematics. We were skeptical about the validity of either for the convergence of evidence and miss what I see as the teacher self-reports teachers often responded to such ques- greater value in triangulating. More accurately, there are tions as time by giving district guidelines or classroom three outcomes that might result from a triangulation observations we felt teachers may have extended their strategy. The first is that which is commonly assumed to math instruction because we were observing their class. The no- The fairly close estimates of time spent on math may sug- tion of convergence needs little explanation: Both estimates ferent sources, methods, investigators, and so on will pro- indicate a small increase in time spent on math from the vide evidence that will result in a single proposition about previously spent self-reported average of 38 minutes per some social phenomenon. The validity of the proposition is also enhanced by M A R C H 15 knowing that the district time allotment for math instruc- minimized by the future math aspirations for these tion 30 minutes was less than either of these estimates. The data obtained through triangula- mastery of the curriculum. For the seventh and eighth tion may be inconsistent, not confirming but not grade classes, on the other hand, there was a preoccupa- contradictory. Primary teachers were provided with a set of cards ability students since many will proceed to a college-prep containing short math activities which could be done dur- math course sequence. It appeared that more time was ing transitional and typically non-instructional times of the taken for quizzing and enrichment activities in these day. Teachers reported using the activity cards extensive- classes, and therefore they did not get as far into the cur- ly but in over classroom observations only 14 such ac- riculum as ninth grade classes. How is it that the preceding explanations are d e r i v e d? An attempt to explain the inconsistency of The traditional view of triangulation would have us put these results requires going beyond the data obtained from forward propositions about the social world that all of our these methods. We trusted our observational data and the data sources, methods, and so on agree on. One is not, nor issues. By delving into the background understanding the should one be, shackled by the immediately available em- evaluator acquires during an extended and intimate interac- pirical evidence in rendering some social p h e n o m e n o n tion with project participants it is possible to construct a understandable. As an abstract idea, researcher to construct plausible explanations. There are teachers were very positively disposed toward using non- obviously the data on hand. There is, also, a holistic instructional time for math activities, a sentiment expressed understanding of the project itself, its history, the inten- in many ways throughout the school year. However, in tions of the developers, the ongoing relationships within practical terms, such an idea is not so easily enacted. For the project, and so on. This understanding about a pro- one thing, teachers would have no unplanned time even ject or program is frequently unarticulated, a part of that a short activity shares many of the characteristics of a com- vast body of tacit knowledge that we all have. So, teachers support the idea through understandings about the social world which allows such their responses, but have difficulty implementing the idea projects and evaluations of them to exist. In the examples as we observed in classrooms. At times, data are not simply inconsis- operate, what schooling goals are, how classrooms operate, tent but are actually contradictory, leading the researcher what teachers do, and so on. It takes all of these levels to to incommensurable. An evaluation of a math curriculum was con- through triangulation strategies. When teachers indicated how many of the total 13 derstandings of the larger social world. So, the example chapters were covered, the median number for ninth grade of convergent data, the amount of time teachers spend was 12, for eighth grade it was 11, and seventh grade teaching mathematics, requires explanation in much the classes got about half way

through the 11th chapter.

Chapter 4 : Measuring the Effects of Self-Awareness: Construction of the Self-Awareness Outcomes Ques

Unobtrusive measurement presumably reduces the biases that result from the intrusion of the researcher or measurement instrument. However, unobtrusive measures reduce the degree the researcher has control over the type of data collected.

Communicating UX Through Video: They only do surveys, for example. They overlap each other somewhat, being complimentary at times, contrary at others. This has the effect of balancing each method out and giving a richer and hopefully truer account. Not only does the array have the power of one very large telescope but it is more nimble, more practical and has the ability to cross-check itself. Most of my own research projects of late, have included: Analytics Interviews face-to-face or phone as needs be Cultural probe aka diary study Focus groups or workshops Secondary research including an examination of market research data Quantitative survey to help validate findings with a much larger sample size Usability testing of existing product or early concepts Lots of different views, lots of data! Each method is used in a way which is appropriate for it, and when combined they allow a degree of cross checking. The above list would be applied to quite a large project; a small project might just include a competitor review, heuristic review and maybe a few interviews. Horses for courses, really. Triangulation to minimize bias Specifically, the problem with relying on just one method is to do with bias. There are several types of bias encountered in research, particularly the qualitative design research we use in the field of UX and IxD. And triangulation can help with most of them. Measurement bias â€" Measurement bias is caused by the way in which you collect data. Probably the most common form of this is the effect of the setting in which you conduct your research, for example, peer pressure on focus group participants. Triangulation allows you to combine individual and group research methods to help reduce this bias. Again, a triangulated approach means you can combine self-reported and observational research methods to help balance out the problem. Some research methods make it easier to cover certain parts of the population, for example using phone interviews for interstate participants can be a good substitute for the face-to-face interviews you do with local participants. Similarly online surveys or cultural probes might make it easier for you to include geographically distant participants. Triangulation combines the different strengths of these methods to ensure you getting sufficient coverage. Procedural bias â€" Procedural bias occurs when participants are put under some kind of pressure to provide information. Similarly, an online exit survey might make the participant rush their answers to finish the survey quickly. Triangulation allows us to combine short engagements with longer engagements where participants have more time to give considered responses. You can never rule bias or preconceptions but you should be cognizant of their presence and potential impact. Particularly with qualitative research, it is considered best practice to acknowledge bias and preconceptions. In this regard, a bit of navel gazing is very important; self reflection and awareness of the limitations of your methods help you assess possible bias and take them into account when analysing data. Is my own sense of fashion affecting my perception of the fashionistas I am studying? Tips for triangulation Mix it up Combine different techniques that balance each other out: This is central to the idea of triangulation. Two heads are better than one A kind of triangulation can also be achieved by having two or more people on the project. Because unless the two researchers are very similar, they are likely to have quite different perspectives on what they are seeing and hearing, thus giving them different theoretical platforms from which to interpret and analyse. As well as simply allowing them to capture more data, the researchers balance each other out. Layer upon layer Yet another way of achieving a kind of triangulation is to conduct your research in successive layers of detail. Start off with a very broad piece of investigative research to identify top level issues and to provide better scope for the next layer. That next layer would be more detailed and focus on a smaller area than the first level. And so on and so forth. Setup a feedback loop Feedback findings into later methods to help validate or flesh out issues that have already popped up. Continuing the above example, during a focus group you might explore an issue that only one interviewee

mentioned and see what the rest of the group thinks. Similarly, you can adapt your interview approach as you go, feeding back what you learn into the questions you ask. My favourite example of this would be using a quantitative method with a large sample size, such as a survey, to validate findings from earlier research using a relatively small sample size. Be reflexive, grasshopper Look for where preconceptions might exist, in yourself and your colleagues, and work out how you might be able to minimise their impact. And make sure you state a summary of this in your findings, along with any bias that you feel may have had an effect on the research. Re-visit participants Visiting the same people at multiple times throughout the research can give good results. For example, you might invite interviewees back for a focus group, allowing you to compare and contrast their views with other similar participants. This longer engagement with these individuals allows you to see how their goals, attitudes and behaviors change over time. Triangulation is a very useful means of capturing more detail, but also of minimizing the effects of bias and ensuring a balanced research study, no matter how big or small that study may be. Patrick will be running a full day workshop on design research methods for UX practitioners at UX Australia â€" a 3-day user experience design conference, with inspiring and practical presentations , covering a range of topics about how to design great experiences for people. It will be held on August , in Canberra Australia. Top image by watchsmart Patrick Kennedy Patrick Kennedy is a user experience architect and design researcher based in Sydney, Australia. Besides assisting clients to better understand their audience and design for them, he speaks, writes, blogs and generally blurts lots of somewhat interesting stuff.

Chapter 5 : Research and Methodology

Denzin suggests that the evidence produced by different methods might be different within-methods triangulation approach has limited value, because of bias in the measures but it is also possible that because essentially only one method is being used, and different methods tap different domains of knowing.

Evans-Pritchard , [2] and Margaret Mead [3] in the first half of the twentieth century. It emerged as the principal approach to ethnographic research by anthropologists and relied on the cultivation of personal relationships with local informants as a way of learning about a culture, involving both observing and participating in the social life of a group. By living with the cultures they studied, researchers were able to formulate first hand accounts of their lives and gain novel insights. This same method of study has also been applied to groups within Western society, and is especially successful in the study of sub-cultures or groups sharing a strong sense of identity, where only by taking part may the observer truly get access to the lives of those being studied. Since the s, some anthropologists and other social scientists have questioned the degree to which participant observation can give veridical insight into the minds of other people. In response to these challenges, some ethnographers have refined their methods, either making them more amenable to formal hypothesis-testing and replicability, or framing their interpretations within a more carefully considered epistemology. It has as a result become specialized. Visual anthropology can be viewed as a subset of methods of participant-observation, as the central questions in that field have to do with how to take a camera into the field, while dealing with such issues as the observer effect. Method and practice[edit] Such research involves a range of well-defined, though variable methods: Although the method is generally characterized as qualitative research , it can and often does include quantitative dimensions. Traditional participant observation is usually undertaken over an extended period of time, ranging from several months to many years, and even generations. Observable details like daily time allotment and more hidden details like taboo behavior are more easily observed and interpreted over a longer period of time. Howell [11] states that it is important to become friends, or at least be accepted in the community, in order to obtain quality data. In the Field Do as the locals do: It is important for the researcher to connect or show a connection with the population in order to be accepted as a member of the community. Recording Observations and Data interviews reflexivity journals: Researchers are encouraged to record their personal thoughts and feelings about the subject of study. They are prompted to think about how their experiences, ethnicity, race, gender, sex, sexual orientation, and other factors might influence their research, in this case what the researcher decides to record and observe Ambert et al. Types of participant observation[edit] Participant observation is not simply showing up at a site and writing things down. On the contrary, participant observation is a complex method that has many components. One of the first things that a researcher or individual must do after deciding to conduct participant observations to gather data is decide what kind of participant observer he or she will be. Spradley [14] provides five different types of participant observations summarised below. Participant Observation Type Chart.

sales records).Uses of Unobtrusive Measures â€¢ particularly useful for triangulation â€¢ As a supplement to interviews.. elaborating its complexity â€¢ These methods can be used without arousing subjects' notice and data collection is relatively easy because it often involves using data already collected by someone else (e. bills.

Show Context Citation Context Because of the variety in unobtrusive measures, there it the risk that they are presented as an inventory e. In practice it is possible to construct more measures than the phenomena under study. The original text on unobtrusive measures Webb et al. Hurrell , " The University does not authorize you to copy, communicate or otherwise make available electronically to any other person any copyright material contained on this site. You are reminded of the following: Higher penalties may apply, and higher damages may be awarded, for offences and infringements involving the conversion of material into digital or electronic form. Use of thesis This copy is the property of Edith Cowan University. However, the literary rights of the author must also be respected. If any passage from this thesis is quoted or closely paraphrased in a paper or written work prepared by the user, the source of the passage must be acknowledged in the work. If the user desires to publish a paper or written work containing passages copied or closely paraphrased from this thesis, which passages would in total constitute an infringing copy for the purpose of the Copyright Act, he or she must first obtain the written School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies, by Gerard A. Methodological rigour within a qualitative framework Aim. This paper discusses the literature on establishing rigour in research studies. It describes the methodological trinity of reliability, validity and generalization and explores some of the issues relating to establishing rigour in naturalisti It describes the methodological trinity of reliability, validity and generalization and explores some of the issues relating to establishing rigour in naturalistic inquiry. Those working within the naturalistic paradigm have questioned the issue of using validity, reliability and generalizability to demonstrate robustness of qualitative research. Triangulation has been used to demonstrate confirmability and completeness and has been one means of ensuring acceptability across paradigms. Emerging criteria such as goodness and trustworthiness can be used to evaluate the robustness of naturalistic inquiry. It is argued that the transference of terms across paradigms is inappropriate; however, if we reject the concepts of validity and reliability, we reject the concept of rigour. Rejection of rigour undermines acceptance of qualitative research as a systematic process that can contribute to the advancement of knowledge. Emerging criteria for demonstrating robustness in qualitative inquiry, such as The American Journal of Family Therapy Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information: This article may be used for research, teaching and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, re-distribution, re-selling, loan or sub-licensing, systematic supply or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden. The publisher does not give any warranty express The publisher does not give any warranty express or implied or make any representation that the contents will be complete or accurate or up to date. The accuracy of any instructions, formulae and drug doses should be independently verified with primary sources. The publisher shall not be liable for any loss, actions, claims, proceedings, demand or costs or damages whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly Correspondence: It is argued that the transference of terms across paradigms is inap-propriate; however, if we reject the concepts of validity and reliability, we reject the concept of rigour. Emerging criteria for demonstrating robustness in qualitative inquiry, such as Build, rent or sell: I hereby declare that I am the sole author of this thesis. This is a true copy of the thesis, including any required final revision, as accepted by my examiners. I understand that my thesis may be made electronically available to the public. Departing from the traditional licensing vs. Using economic theories of the firm, particularly transaction cost economics, it is hypothesized that: The primary weakness attributed to triangulation is that, in general, there are no reliable methods for combining the results of the various tests Jick, Graduate Theses and Dissertations. It has been accepted

Chapter 7 : Participant observation - Wikipedia

research triangulation, both within the method and also using multiple research methodologies. This is particularly important in unobtrusive research because unlike surveying or sampling, the validity of the.

In fact, the methods are largely limited by the imagination of the researcher. Here I discuss a few of the more common methods. Participant Observation One of the most common methods for qualitative data collection, participant observation is also one of the most demanding. It requires that the researcher become a participant in the culture or context being observed. The literature on participant observation discusses how to enter the context, the role of the researcher as a participant, the collection and storage of field notes, and the analysis of field data. Participant observation often requires months or years of intensive work because the researcher needs to become accepted as a natural part of the culture in order to assure that the observations are of the natural phenomenon. Direct Observation Direct observation is distinguished from participant observation in a number of ways. However, the direct observer does strive to be as unobtrusive as possible so as not to bias the observations. Second, direct observation suggests a more detached perspective. The researcher is watching rather than taking part. Consequently, technology can be a useful part of direct observation. For instance, one can videotape the phenomenon or observe from behind one-way mirrors. Third, direct observation tends to be more focused than participant observation. The researcher is observing certain sampled situations or people rather than trying to become immersed in the entire context. Finally, direct observation tends not to take as long as participant observation. For instance, one might observe child-mother interactions under specific circumstances in a laboratory setting from behind a one-way mirror, looking especially for the nonverbal cues being used. Unstructured Interviewing Unstructured interviewing involves direct interaction between the researcher and a respondent or group. It differs from traditional structured interviewing in several important ways. First, although the researcher may have some initial guiding questions or core concepts to ask about, there is no formal structured instrument or protocol. Second, the interviewer is free to move the conversation in any direction of interest that may come up. Consequently, unstructured interviewing is particularly useful for exploring a topic broadly. However, there is a price for this lack of structure. Because each interview tends to be unique with no predetermined set of questions asked of all respondents, it is usually more difficult to analyze unstructured interview data, especially when synthesizing across respondents. Case Studies A case study is an intensive study of a specific individual or specific context. For instance, Freud developed case studies of several individuals as the basis for the theory of psychoanalysis and Piaget did case studies of children to study developmental phases. There is no single way to conduct a case study, and a combination of methods e.

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by Alan Bryman. Triangulation refers to the use of more than one approach to the investigation of a research question in order to enhance confidence in the ensuing findings by EusebioReyero in Types > Research and social research.

Abstract Dispositional self-awareness is conceptualized in several different ways, including insight, reflection, rumination and mindfulness, with the latter in particular attracting extensive attention in recent research. While self-awareness is generally associated with positive psychological well-being, these different conceptualizations are also each associated with a range of unique outcomes. This two part, mixed methods study aimed to advance understanding of dispositional self-awareness by developing a questionnaire to measure its outcomes. In Study 1, expert focus groups categorized and extended an initial pool of potential items from previous research. In Study 2, these items were reduced to a 38 item self-report questionnaire with four factors representing three beneficial outcomes reflective self-development, acceptance and proactivity and one negative outcome costs. Regression of these outcomes against self-awareness measures revealed that self-reflection and insight predicted beneficial outcomes, rumination predicted reduced benefits and increased costs, and mindfulness predicted both increased proactivity and costs. These studies help to refine the self-awareness concept by identifying the unique outcomes associated with the concepts of self-reflection, insight, reflection, rumination and mindfulness. It can be used in future studies to evaluate and develop awareness-raising techniques to maximize self-awareness benefits while minimizing related costs.
Four decades ago, Fenigstein et al. The importance of self-awareness goes beyond well-being and mental health to include substantial impacts on day-to-day functioning. While the number of studies demonstrating the importance of self-awareness continues to grow, there is not yet a comprehensive measure available to capture this range of effects and outcomes. Instead, it seems that each new study focuses on a different outcome, or that outcomes are investigated according to what is currently of wider interest in the psychological literature as, for example, with the current interest in well-being. While this approach is certainly beneficial in establishing specific outcomes associated with self-awareness, it does leave the field somewhat fragmented. A single measure that could assess the whole range of potential outcomes of self-awareness would provide a dual benefit to researchers and practitioners. First, it would enable further theoretical differentiation of existing self-awareness concepts through a consideration of their differential impacts on individual lives. Second, it would provide an effective means for evaluating the potential changes brought about by awareness-building interventions. Viewed as an overarching theoretical construct, self-awareness is operationalized in different ways depending on the focus of the research. Dispositional self-awareness also known as self-consciousness or self-attentiveness in contrast, is the trait-like tendency for an individual to focus on and reflect on their own psychological processes and inner experiences as well as their relationships to others Fenigstein et al. In the following sections, these different conceptualizations and measures are reviewed and their individual relationships with various outcomes are outlined. While self-reflection and insight are related to well-being, it is not a straightforward relationship. Insight is related to increased psychological well-being and cognitive flexibility, while self-reflection is associated with higher anxiety but lower depression. This paradox was partially resolved when Trapnell and Campbell introduced a different conceptualization of dispositional self-attentiveness by relating self-awareness to the Big Five personality traits. Rumination, related to neuroticism, reflects a tendency to focus on negative self-perceptions and emotions. Reflection, on the other hand, is related to the openness to experience trait and represents a tendency to reflect objectively. The differential impact of these two forms of self-attentiveness have been demonstrated in many areas, including the interpersonal arena: Rumination negatively predicted autonomy, mastery and self-acceptance while reflection positively predicted personal growth. This study further demonstrated how a focus on

self-awareness outcomes can help to elucidate theoretical distinctions within the self-awareness concept. This element of a receptive attitude is helpful in differentiating between mindfulness and other aspects of self-awareness, as Brown and Ryan note when distinguishing between two unique modes of self-regulation: Teasdale has suggested that this difference lies at the root of the differing effects of mindfulness and ruminative self-attentiveness, with the former being adaptive and the latter, due to its evaluative component, maladaptive. Indeed, in their seminal review, Brown, Ryan, and Creswell noted that being mindful could also potentially be harmful, for example by reducing the positive illusions that are associated with enhanced well-being. Yet this potentially harmful side of mindfulness is rarely explored in the profusion of literature about its beneficial effects. This study seeks to provide a holistic understanding of mindfulness and other dispositional aspects of self-awareness by identifying both the positive and negative outcomes associated with each. A significant volume of research has elucidated the relationship of various conceptualizations of self-awareness with health-related variables e. However, research on the more behavioural outcomes of increased self-awareness tends to be fragmented and focus on one or two outcomes at a time. If self-awareness is to be promoted as of direct value to individuals, organisations and society, it is important to assess the full range of potential outcomes. A comprehensive measure of the outcomes and effects of self-awareness would not only give researchers a concise way of evaluating the wide impact of self-awareness interventions but would also help to elaborate the nature of the relationships between different conceptualizations of self-awareness. The following two-part study aimed to develop and evaluate one such measure, the Self-Awareness Outcomes Questionnaire. Study 1 developed the conceptual framework and established face and content validity for the questionnaire. Study 2 established the factor structure, reliability and construct validity of the questionnaire, delineating the relationships between different measures of self-awareness and outcomes. Conceptual Framework for the SAOQ This study developed the content validity of the SAOQ questionnaire through identification, discussion and refinement of potential items with focus groups consisting of experts in the field of self-awareness. Method Sutton et al. Two of these twelve contingent themes were excluded from this study as not relevant: An initial list of 61 self-awareness outcomes was developed based on the data from that study and these items were used as the basis for focus group discussions as follows. Sample Two expert focus groups were recruited through personal contacts, chosen to represent two different approaches to self-awareness development. The first consisted of four counsellors working within the person-centred p-c approach, who were also tutors on a p-c counselling course at a UK university. The development of self-awareness is a key aspect of the person-centred approach Rogers, and these counsellors had many years of experience within the therapeutic and educational arenas. These therapists all had a nursing background and most of their therapeutic work used a CBT cognitive behavioural therapy approach. Procedure The first focus group was conducted in a conference room on site at the university, while the second was at a training venue used previously by the therapists. Focus groups lasted approximately 90 minutes and were conducted by the author and a research assistant, with one leading the discussions and the other making detailed notes. The groups provided written informed consent and an audio recording of the discussions was made for later analysis. Participants were given a small voucher as thanks for their participation and this was provided at the beginning of the time so as not to pressure them into staying should they wish to leave the study early. Participants were introduced to the study as an exploration of the effects of self-awareness on everyday life. Each participant was then given cards with the potential questionnaire items on them one per card and asked to arrange them into themes or categories that made sense to them, and to give each theme a name. Participants were allowed to discuss their ideas with other members of the group as they did this, although most of them undertook the initial sorting individually. Answers here were probed for both positive and negative effects. Results The items were grouped into between three and six categories by the participants. While the individual names given to the categories varied among the participants, four general themes emerged: Participants in both groups were able to identify further effects of improved self-awareness from their own experience and their observations of clients and students, including for example I feel able to be

different and I consciously choose to behave in certain ways rather than reacting instantly. Another group of items - the perceived costs of self-awareness - was also identified by both groups e. Although clearly an important part of CBT therapy, this distinction did not surface in the later analyses of questionnaire items in Study 2, where outcomes reflected the general themes agreed upon by both groups. Some participants in the CBT group also labelled items as positive or negative, and this distinction is developed somewhat in the interpretation of the subscales in Study 2, which identify both benefits and costs of self-awareness. The final result of this study was a comprehensive list of 83 items representing the outcomes of self-awareness as reported by experts in the field and previous research evaluations of self-awareness training. Further, the themes and categories identified in this study provided context for interpretation of statistical results in Study 2. Development of the SAOQ Study 2 aimed to refine the items from the first study into a psychometrically sound self-report questionnaire that could be used to measure the outcomes self-awareness. In addition, Study 2 was designed to further explore the relationship between different self-awareness conceptualizations, including self-reflection, insight, reflection, rumination and mindfulness. Method This study adopted a stratified sampling approach in order to recruit participants who could be theoretically expected to differ in the extent of their self-awareness. As discussed previously, counselling demands a high level of self-awareness in practitioners and counselling training courses emphasize the development of self-awareness in students. Counsellors and students on therapy-related courses were therefore expected to have higher levels of self-awareness than those employed in non-counselling fields or studying non-counselling courses. A sample of employed therapists and counsellors and a sample of students on counselling courses were therefore recruited. In order to provide a matched sample, participants were also recruited from two populations which were not engaged in self-awareness development: In summary, four different groups were sampled: Therapists and counsellors Post-graduate, part-time students on therapy-related courses Human Resources practitioners and Business School staff i. The survey was advertised in professional newsletters, through personal contacts and on a forum for therapists-in-training, offering a small gift voucher as a thanks for their participation. Respondents to the advert were sent an email with a unique link to the online survey. In total, participants were recruited. Measures The 83 items from Study 1 were reworded to allow the use of a frequency response scale and to ensure consistency in phrasing. They were arranged in random order and presented as a single questionnaire asking respondents to indicate how often they experienced each of the outcomes, with a five point frequency response scale from 1 never to 5 almost always. In order to establish construct validity for the SAOQ, participants also completed the following measures: The RRQ consists of 24 items measured on a 5 point Likert scale. The MAAS consists of 15 items measured on a 6 point frequency scale. The SRIS consists of 20 items measured on a 6 point scale. These items were gathered from a literature review and the focus groups in Study 1 and included the following items: Items which did not load clearly above. A final analysis was run on the remaining 38 items using alpha factoring extraction with promax rotation: The resulting 4 factor structure explained The pattern matrix is shown in Table 1 and, in combination with the qualitative analysis from Study 1, was interpreted to provide names for each of the subscales. In line with recommendations by Tabachnick and Fidell , variables with loadings above. As this was an initial study to establish the wide range of different outcomes associated with self-awareness, it was considered better to be more rather than less inclusive of items as long as the reliability of the scale remained high. Items loading on more than one factor were interpreted within the factor with the highest loading.

Chapter 9 : Social Research Methods - Knowledge Base - Qualitative Methods

Unobtrusive research (or unobtrusive measures) is a method of data collection used primarily in the social blog.quintoapp.com term "unobtrusive measures" was first coined by Webb, Campbell, Schwartz, & Sechrest in a book titled Unobtrusive Measures: nonreactive research in the social sciences.