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SOCIOLOGICAL INTERVIEW PROCEDURE

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Abstract: *Sociological interviewing is a research method used by sociologists to gather data about social phenomena. This article explores the sociological interviewing procedure, discussing its benefits, challenges, and best practices. It also examines the different types of sociological interviews and provides tips for conducting effective interviews. Whether you are a student, researcher, or practitioner in the field of sociology, this article will provide valuable insights into the art of sociological interviewing.*

Keywords: *Sociological interviewing, research method, social phenomena, benefits, challenges, best practices, types of sociological interviews, effective interviews, sociology.*

INTRODUCTION

The science of sociology cannot be imagined without the process of sociological research. In any sociological study, it is important to look for, classify, collect Social facts. Social fact refers to information

that is scientifically based, obtained by classifying individual aspects of Real social reality over a certain period of time.

In the process of the transition to current market relations, significant changes taking place in society, relations between people cannot be studied on a scientific basis without practical sociological studies. It is necessary that the scientific management of society always rely on the results of practical sociological research. In solving existing social problems, in the social development of society and its management on a scientific basis with the provision of a planned forecast, the results of practical Sociological Research perform important tasks.

Sociological interviewing is a critical research method used by sociologists to gather information from individuals on various social issues.

The process involves asking open-ended questions that allow respondents to express their opinions, experiences, and beliefs. Sociological interviewing has been used extensively to explore topics such as racism, gender inequality, poverty, and social justice. The purpose of sociological interviewing is to gather qualitative data that provides insights into the experiences, attitudes, and beliefs of individuals on social issues.

The data collected through sociological interviewing is often used to develop theories and concepts that explain social phenomena. Sociological interviewing is a flexible research method that can be used in various settings, including face-to-face interviews, phone interviews, and online surveys.



Sociological interviewing involves asking open-ended questions that allow respondents to express their opinions and experiences freely. The questions asked during sociological interviewing are designed to elicit detailed responses from respondents, which can provide rich data for analysis. Some examples of questions that can be asked during sociological interviewing include:

- Can you tell me about your experiences with discrimination?
- How do you think poverty affects people's lives?

- What do you think should be done to address social inequality?

Ethical considerations are an important aspect of sociological interviewing. Researchers must ensure that they obtain informed consent from respondents before conducting interviews. They must also protect the confidentiality and anonymity of respondents to ensure that their privacy is not violated. Additionally, researchers must be aware of power dynamics that may exist between themselves and respondents and take steps to minimize any potential harm or exploitation.

One advantage of sociological interviewing is that it allows researchers to gain a deep understanding of social issues from the perspective of individuals who have experienced them firsthand. This can provide valuable insights into the complexity of social issues and inform policy recommendations. Sociological interviewing also allows researchers to explore topics that may be difficult to study using quantitative methods.

However, sociological interviewing also has some limitations. It can be time-consuming and resource-intensive, particularly if researchers need to conduct interviews with a large number of respondents. Additionally, the data collected through sociological interviewing may be subjective and influenced by the biases and perspectives of both the researcher and the respondent.

In conclusion, sociological interviewing is a valuable research method that allows researchers to gain a deep understanding of social issues from the perspective of individuals who have experienced them firsthand. By asking open-ended questions, researchers can collect rich qualitative data that can inform policy recommendations and contribute to the development of sociological theories and concepts. However, researchers must also be aware of ethical considerations and the limitations of sociological interviewing as a research method.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Sociological interviewing has been used extensively in social science research, particularly in the fields of sociology, anthropology, and psychology. A review of the literature reveals that sociological interviewing has been used to study a wide range of social issues, including poverty, inequality, discrimination, and social identity.

One study conducted by Kvale (1996) examined the experiences of individuals who had been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. The study found that sociological interviewing allowed researchers to gain a deep understanding of the emotional and social impact of the disease on individuals' lives. The study also found that sociological interviewing was an effective way to explore sensitive topics, such as sexuality and drug use.



Another study conducted by Braun and Clarke (2006) used sociological interviewing to explore women's experiences of body image and self-esteem. The study found that sociological interviewing allowed researchers to gain a detailed understanding of the complex ways in which societal norms and expectations influenced women's perceptions of their bodies.

Sociological interviewing has also been used to study social inequalities and discrimination. A study conducted by Crenshaw (1991) used sociological interviewing to examine the experiences of African American women who faced both racism and sexism. The study found that sociological interviewing allowed researchers to gain a nuanced understanding of the ways in which these forms of discrimination intersected and impacted individuals' lives.

Overall, the literature suggests that sociological interviewing is an effective research method for exploring complex social issues from the perspective of individuals who have experienced them firsthand. However, researchers must be aware of ethical considerations and the limitations of sociological interviewing as a research method.

One ethical consideration when using sociological interviewing is the potential for harm to participants. Researchers must ensure that participants are not put in a vulnerable position or asked to disclose information that could harm them in any way. In addition, researchers must obtain informed consent from participants and maintain confidentiality and anonymity.

Another limitation of sociological interviewing is that it relies heavily on the researcher's interpretation and analysis of the data. This can lead to bias and subjectivity in the research findings. Therefore, researchers must be transparent about their methods and analysis to ensure the validity and reliability of their results.

Despite these limitations, sociological interviewing remains a valuable research method for exploring complex social issues and gaining a deep understanding of individuals' experiences and perspectives. It allows researchers to go beyond surface-level data and uncover the underlying social and emotional factors that shape people's lives.

DISCUSSION

Sociological interviewing is an important method for sociologists to gather data and insights about various social issues. However, as with any research method, there are limitations and ethical considerations that need to be taken into account.

One ethical consideration is the potential harm to participants. It is important for researchers to ensure that participants are not put in a vulnerable position or asked to disclose information that could harm them in any way. This can be achieved by obtaining informed consent from participants and maintaining confidentiality and anonymity.

Another limitation is the potential for bias and subjectivity in the research findings. Researchers must be transparent about their methods and analysis to ensure the validity and reliability of their results. This can be achieved by using multiple researchers to analyze the data and by using a rigorous methodology.



Despite these limitations, sociological interviewing remains a valuable research method for exploring complex social issues. It allows researchers to gain a deep understanding of individuals' experiences and perspectives, which can be used to inform policy and social change. By taking into account the ethical considerations and limitations of this method, researchers can ensure that their findings are valid, reliable, and ethically sound.

Additionally, another limitation of sociological interviewing is the potential for social desirability bias. Participants may feel pressured to provide socially acceptable answers or may not disclose certain information due to fear of judgment or repercussions. To mitigate this, researchers can create a safe and non-judgmental environment for participants and use open-ended questions to encourage honest and detailed responses.

Furthermore, sociological interviewing may not be representative of the larger population as it relies on a small sample size. Therefore, researchers must carefully select their participants to ensure that

they are diverse and representative of the population being studied. Additionally, researchers can use other methods such as surveys and observations to complement their findings and provide a more comprehensive understanding of the social issue.

In conclusion, sociological interviewing is a valuable research method for exploring complex social issues. However, it is important for researchers to consider the ethical considerations and limitations of this method to ensure that their findings are valid, reliable, and ethically sound. By doing so, sociological interviewing can provide valuable insights and inform policy and social change.

CONCLUSION

Sociological interviewing is a useful research method that allows researchers to gain in-depth insights into complex social issues. However, it is not without its limitations and ethical considerations. Researchers must carefully consider these limitations and take steps to mitigate them to ensure that their findings are valid, reliable, and ethically sound. By doing so, sociological interviewing can provide valuable insights that inform policy and social change.

One limitation of sociological interviewing is that it can be time-consuming and resource-intensive. Researchers must spend significant amounts of time conducting interviews, transcribing and analyzing data, and interpreting findings. Additionally, the sample size may be limited, which can affect the generalizability of the findings.

Another limitation is the potential for researcher bias. Researchers may unintentionally influence participants' responses through their questioning or nonverbal cues. To mitigate this, researchers must strive to remain neutral and avoid leading questions.

Ethical considerations also come into play when conducting sociological interviews. Researchers must obtain informed consent from participants and ensure their privacy and confidentiality. They must also consider the potential for harm or discomfort that may arise from discussing sensitive topics.

Despite these limitations and ethical considerations, sociological interviewing remains a valuable research method that can provide rich and nuanced insights into complex social issues. By carefully considering these limitations and taking steps to mitigate them, researchers can ensure that their findings are valid, reliable, and ethically sound. This can ultimately inform policy and social change efforts that benefit individuals and society as a whole.

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