

SÁRA CSILLAG

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF COOPERATIVE INQUIRY

ABSTRACT

This article presents the results of a participatory action research project undertaken with Hungarian MSc students specializing in Human Resource Management about the employment of people with disabilities. In the theoretical part of the paper I present the characteristics of the participatory paradigm and co-operative inquiry. In the second (empirical) part I outline the details of the research process and share some practical example. The purpose of the paper is to encourage students and researchers to use participatory methods and provide practical guidance to do so.

KEYWORDS: co-operative inquiry, participation, people with disabilities, university students

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BARBARA KESZEI – ZSÓFIA BÖDDI – ANDREA DÚLL  
OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN NATURAL OBSERVATION:  
THE CONCLUSIONS OF A NURSERY SCHOOL STUDY

ABSTRACT

The natural observation method is introduced through the example of a preschool research. The ongoing series of research is carried out in integrating kindergartens, focusing on the analysis of the interaction and the use of space. Our current work is related primarily to our experience in the research and data recording arrangement. The purpose of this studies to provide a short description of the natural observation method focusing on the advantages, disadvantages, and possible ways of application which we met during our research. Practical supplementary materials (tables, figures) are disclosed, which can help to organize the research. We discuss a few pitfalls, which often remain unpublished in methodological research summaries.

KEYWORDS: natural observation, video, interaction, usage of space, preschool setting, integration

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ALEXANDRA KÖVES

BACK FROM THE FUTURE: USING THE METHODOLOGY OF BACKCASTING TO FIND POTENTIAL INTERVENTION POINTS TO COMPLEX, SYSTEMIC PROBLEMS

ABSTRACT

The paper presents the method of backcasting using the example of a Hungarian participatory backcasting research on the topic of sustainable employment. The novelty of the future research method of backcasting lies with its approach that it uses a possible vision of the future as a starting point to see what steps can be taken today that lead to more acceptable outcomes than the current trends. The discussion also entails the experienced advantages and limitations of the application of this method.

KEYWORDS: backcasting, future research, participatory method, sustainable employment

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KITTI KUTROVÁTZ

CONDUCTING QUALITATIVE INTERVIEWS WITH ADOLESCENTS: METHODOLOGICAL AND  
ETHICAL CHALLENGES

ABSTRACT

This paper explores the methodological and ethical challenges of conducting qualitative research – especially individual interviews – with children. My research project intends to undertake an investigation about the time parents and their teenage children spend together in order to identify the characteristics and perception of time devoted to family. Researching children's perspective raises several methodological questions concerning their different power status and competence. Furthermore, these differences also relate to several key ethical issues. Firstly, the paper explores the general challenges and suggests possible answers as far as conducting qualitative interviews with children are concerned. Secondly, it reflects on the specific questions brought up in connection with an investigation of a sensitive issue such as the time shared with the parents.

KEYWORDS: children and young people research, qualitative interview, methodology, ethics

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USING STUDENT-DRAWN MIND MAPS IN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

#### ABSTRACT

Constant changes in the social and technological environment push teachers in higher education towards innovative methods, the effects of which they have to verify. The article focuses on methodology: it presents a mixed-method approach to an investigation of educational innovation. The research builds on the practice of visual sociology – of diagrammatic elicitation in particular. We collected sociodemographic information and one mind map at both the beginning and the end of the school semester from students. Our data can be analysed both qualitatively and quantitatively, and may help us to answer questions pertaining to the effectiveness of the course, its ability to reduce pre-existing gaps between students, and to the way students thematically organize their knowledge about sociology.

**KEYWORDS:** diagrammatic elicitation, education research, knowledge-creating school, mind map, mixed methods, visual sociology

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