

Qualitative research critique



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Qualitative Research by Michael D. Myers Originally published in: MISQ Discovery, June 1997 This is the “ living version”. [Welcome] [Introduction] [Overview of Qualitative Research] [Philosophical Perspectives] [Qualitative Research Methods] [Qualitative Techniques for Data Collection] [Modes of Analysis] [Writing Up Qualitative Research][References on Qualitative Research] [Resources for Qualitative Researchers] [Software Tools for Qualitative Researchers] [Teaching Qualitative Research] [Calls for Papers] [Citation Information] Qualitative Research in Information Systems

Section Editor: Michael D. Myers Welcome Welcome to the ISWorld Section on Qualitative Research in Information Systems (IS). This section aims to provide qualitative researchers in IS – and those wanting to know how to do qualitative research – with useful information on the conduct, evaluation and publication of qualitative research. The originally accepted work was published in MISQ Discovery in 1997 and is available in the MISQ Discovery Archive. This work also received the Value-Added Site award for 1996-97 sponsored by the Academy of Management? Organizational Communication and Information Systems Division and ISWorld. More recently, this work received an ISWorld Challenge Award from the Association for Information Systems in 2004. Acknowledgments: I am very grateful to Allen S. Lee and M. Lynne Markus for their earlier encouragement and advice. Introduction This section is dedicated to qualitative research in Information Systems (IS). Qualitative research involves the use of qualitative data, such as interviews, documents, and participant observation data, to understand and explain social phenomena. Qualitative researchers can be found in many disciplines and fields, using a variety of approaches, methods and techniques. In

Information Systems, there has been a general shift in IS research away from technological to managerial and organizational issues, hence an increasing interest in the application of qualitative research methods. This section is organized as follows. After a general overview of qualitative research, philosophical perspectives which can inform qualitative research are discussed. This is followed by sections on qualitative research methods, qualitative research techniques, and modes of analyzing and interpreting qualitative data.

This is then followed by a number of sub-sections that relate to qualitative research in general, i. e. citation lists, links to resources on the Internet for qualitative researchers, links to software tools and calls for papers. The goal is to provide the IS community with useful information on qualitative research in IS (subject to copyright considerations) with as much material as possible provided — through links — by the original authors themselves. If you wish to cite this work, the complete citation information is included below.

Please send suggestions for improvement to the Section Editor at: m. ac. nz to see how you can help. Citation Information The complete citation for this work is as follows: Myers, M. D. “ Qualitative Research in Information Systems,” MIS Quarterly (21: 2), June 1997, pp. 241-242. MISQ Discovery, archival version, June 1997, http://www.misq.org/discovery/MISQD_isworld/. MISQ Discovery, updated version, last modified: January 4, 2008 <http://www.qual.auckland.ac.nz/>