

# Intrinsic, instrumental, and collective intrinsic case studies

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He suggests that case studies can be classified into three different types: intrinsic, instrumental, and collective. Intrinsic case studies are undertaken when researcher wants to better understand a particular case. It is not undertaken primarily because it represents other cases or because it illustrates some particular trait, characteristic, or problem. Rather, it is because of its uniqueness or ordinariness that a case becomes interesting.

**Instrumental case studies** Instrumental case studies provide insights into an issue or refine a theoretical explanation. **CLC** The intention is to assist the researcher to better understand some external theoretical question or problem. **Collective case studies** Collective case studies involve extensive study of several instrumental cases. **LJ** The selection of cases is intended to allow better understanding or perhaps enhanced ability to theorize about a broader context.

**Case study design types** There are different appropriate signs for case studies according to Yin (1994) and Winston (1997). These include exploratory, explanatory, and descriptive case studies. **Exploratory case studies** In exploratory case studies, fieldwork, and data collection may be undertaken prior to definition of the research questions and hypotheses. **CJ** This type of study has been considered as a prelude to some social research. **Explanatory case studies** Explanatory cases are suitable for doing causal studies.

In very complex and multivariate cases, the analysis can make use of pattern-matching techniques, which is a situation where several pieces of information from the same case may be related to some theoretical

proposition. Descriptive case studies Descriptive cases require that the investigator begin with a descriptive theory, which establishes the overall framework for the investigator to follow throughout the study. The scientific benefits Of case studies The scientific benefit of the case study lies in its ability to open the way for discoveries.