## Research Methods: Quantitative, Qualitative, Mixed Methods, Arts-Based, and Community-Based



Research Design: Quantitative, Qualitative, Mixed Methods, Arts-Based, and Community-Based Participatory Research Approaches by Patricia Leavy

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Research methods are the systematic ways in which researchers collect and analyze data to answer questions and test hypotheses. There are many different research methods, but the five main types are:

- 1. Quantitative research
- 2. Qualitative research
- 3. Mixed methods research
- 4. Arts-based research
- 5. Community-based research

#### **Quantitative Research**

Quantitative research is the systematic collection and analysis of numerical data to describe and explain phenomena. It is often used to test hypotheses and to make generalizations about a population. Quantitative research methods include surveys, experiments, and quasi-experiments.

#### Advantages of quantitative research:

- Can be used to test hypotheses and to make generalizations about a population
- Provides objective, numerical data that can be easily analyzed and compared
- Can be used to study large populations

#### Disadvantages of quantitative research:

- Can be limited in its ability to capture the complexities of human behavior
- Can be difficult to design and implement
- Can be expensive to conduct

#### **Qualitative Research**

Qualitative research is the systematic collection and analysis of nonnumerical data to describe and understand phenomena. It is often used to explore complex issues and to gain insights into the experiences of individuals and groups. Qualitative research methods include interviews, focus groups, and participant observation.

#### Advantages of qualitative research:

- Can provide rich, detailed data that can capture the complexities of human behavior
- Can be used to explore complex issues and to gain insights into the experiences of individuals and groups
- Can be relatively inexpensive to conduct

#### Disadvantages of qualitative research:

- Cannot be used to test hypotheses or to make generalizations about a population
- Can be difficult to analyze and interpret
- Can be biased by the researcher's own experiences and beliefs

#### Mixed Methods Research

Mixed methods research is the combination of quantitative and qualitative research methods. It is often used to gain a more comprehensive understanding of a phenomenon by combining the strengths of both methods. Mixed methods research can be used to test hypotheses, to explore complex issues, and to gain insights into the experiences of individuals and groups.

#### Advantages of mixed methods research:

 Can provide a more comprehensive understanding of a phenomenon by combining the strengths of both quantitative and qualitative methods

- Can be used to test hypotheses, to explore complex issues, and to gain insights into the experiences of individuals and groups
- Can be used to triangulate findings from different methods

#### Disadvantages of mixed methods research:

- Can be more complex and time-consuming to design and implement than single-method studies
- Can be more difficult to analyze and interpret than single-method studies
- Can be more expensive to conduct than single-method studies

#### **Arts-Based Research**

Arts-based research is a form of qualitative research that uses the arts as a means of inquiry and expression. It is often used to explore complex issues and to gain insights into the experiences of individuals and groups. Arts-based research methods include creative writing, drama, music, and dance.

#### Advantages of arts-based research:

- Can provide a unique and powerful way to explore complex issues and to gain insights into the experiences of individuals and groups
- Can be used to engage participants in a creative and meaningful way
- Can be used to create new knowledge and understanding that would not be possible through other research methods

#### Disadvantages of arts-based research:

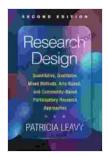
- Can be difficult to design and implement
- Can be difficult to analyze and interpret
- Can be biased by the researcher's own experiences and beliefs

#### **Community-Based Research**

Community-based research is a form of qualitative research that involves collaboration between researchers and community members. It is often used to address issues that are important to the community and to develop solutions that are relevant to the community's needs. Community-based research methods include community surveys, focus groups, and participatory action research.

#### Advantages of community-based research:

- Can be used to address issues that are important to the community
- Can involve community members in the research process and give them a voice in the development of solutions
- Can help to build relationships between researchers and community members



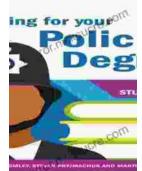
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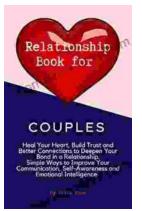


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