



Sampling Decisions in the Research Process



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Abstract : *The issue of sampling is at different stages in the research process. In an interview study, it is connected to the decision about which persons you will interview (case sampling) and from which groups these should come (sampling groups of cases). Furthermore, it emerges with the decision about which of the interviews should be further treated; that is, transcribed and analyzed (material sampling). During interpretation of the data, the question again arises when you decide which parts of a text you should select for interpretation in general or for particular detailed interpretations (sampling within the material). Finally, it arises when presenting the findings: which cases or parts of text are best to demonstrate your findings (presentational sampling)?*

In the literature, various suggestions have been made for the problem of sampling. But quite unambiguously, they are located at two poles : on more or less abstract or concrete criteria.

Keywords : *Sampling, research, data, text, interpretations*