

Narrative Assignment Week Three

Liberty University

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Qualitative Design

Qualitative research is concerned with a holistic view of the subjects or topic that is being researched. One of the reasons to utilize qualitative research and not quantitative research is to acquire more depth of why something occurred and not merely the cause(s) of the occurrence, (Berg, 2004). There are five types or methods or models of qualitative research. These five are: phenomenology, ethnography, case study, grounded theory, and narrative research. The method or model chosen to conduct the research is dependent on the intent of the research and researcher, (Lewis, 2015).

Narrative Design

Narrative research design is one of the five qualitative research models. The core of narrative design and, thus, when it is most effect in qualitative research, is when the data collection is focused on an individual or individuals and the phenomenon that the individual or individuals experienced, (Creswell & Poth, 2018). If a researcher is attempting to gather research on the unique experience of being held captive by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, a narrative research design where interviews of the children being held captive and the parents of these children may be a highly accurate and efficient way to gather data on this topic. This would be an example of a biographical study. Other examples include oral history and autoethnography, (Creswell & Creswell, 2018).

Problems with Narrative Design

There are many problems that are associated with narrative research design. One problem is the researcher's influence on gathering the research and the research itself. The researcher must interact extensively with the subjects. This interaction may taint the research by the

researcher developing positive or negative feelings toward the subject(s) which then alters the information of the re-telling of the story versus the actual event(s), (Creswell & Poth, 2018).

Another problem that may arise when researching more than subject is if/when the subjects' stories are contradictory. This raises an ethical dilemma, which story is told or which story is given more credence by the researcher, (Creswell & Creswell, 2018).

Problem Statement

The attrition of doctoral students is as high as 71%, (Mendoza, Villarreal III, & Gunderson, 2014). Another study indicates the completion rate of doctoral students at 81%, (Geven, Skopek, & Triventi, 2018). A third study reveals an average of 50% doctoral persistence which then can also be read as a 50% attrition rate among doctoral students, (Castello, Pardo, Sala-Bubare, & Sune-Soler, 2017). Given one study shows a high completion rate among doctoral students, another study show a high attrition rate among doctoral students, and a third study indicates a 50% chance of either persistence or attrition, there is a need to research the motivation among student who do have doctoral persistence and have completed a business doctoral program or are well on their way to completing a business doctoral program as well as the study of the students who did not complete a business doctoral program and are no longer pursuing a doctorate degree in business in an attempt to discover the factors needed to obtain doctoral persistence and then utilize these findings to increase the doctoral persistence among the doctoral business students.

Qualitative Research Questions

What were your reasons for applying and then enrolling in a doctorate of business administration (DBA) program? What were (are) your methods or means for paying the tuition, fees, books and other expenses associated with obtaining a DBA and how did, as well as do (if

applicable), you acquire these means and what effect does the financial cost of the DBA program have on your life?

Purpose Statement

At this stage of the research, the doctoral persistence will be the students that have completed 12 or more credit hours in a business doctoral program with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a scale of 0.0 to 4.0 with a 4.0 being the highest grade possible for the course(s). Doctoral attrition will include the students who have not taken a course in the doctoral program in the previous three terms or more. Students who do not meet either of these parameters will be exempt from the study.

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