

Seminar 3 - Questionnaires

Purpose of the Week

This week we look at the use of questionnaires in qualitative research and how to analyse the results. We will consider the nature of a questionnaire, its design and implementation, and how to analyse it, as well discuss its strengths and also its limitations. There will be guidance on how to set up an electronic questionnaire.

Tasks for the week

- Watch the recording: Questionnaires by Dr Jack Hunter.
- Watch the recording: Creating Your Questionnaire by Dr Bernadette Brady.
- Read the discussion paper for this week.
- Do the required reading.

You should also begin to think about the Ethics requirements for your project. For all research involving human participants (such as questionnaires and interviews) you must read the Ethical Guidelines, complete an Ethics Form and (for interviews) complete an Interview Release form for each interviewee. You will find these documents in the 'Ethics' section of this module on Moodle.

Discussion paper for this week:

Brink, T. L. 1978. 'Inconsistency of Belief among Roman Catholic Girls: Concerning Religion, Astrology, Reincarnation.' *Review of Religious Research*, 20, 82-85. Available on JSTOR.

Required Reading:

This week's reading focuses firstly on the theory of questionnaires and then provides you with two practical examples of their use. The first example is the paper by T.L. Brink listed above, using the tool of a questionnaire to explore belief, and the second is Bernadette Brady's use of a questionnaire to supplement her investigation into beliefs in fate held by astrologers.

Note: Look at how both **Brady** and **Campion** used the tool of questionnaires as a part of their PhD research. These questionnaires can be viewed by looking the appendix to their PhDs which are located in the MA CAA Online Library. Additionally you may wish to look at the some of the questions they asked and repeat these in your own research thereby allowing you to compare your results with those of Campion and/or Brady.

Bell, J. and S. Waters, *Doing Your Research Project* (New York: Open University Press/McGraw-Hill, 2017), 7th edition. Chapter 10 ('Designing and Administering Surveys'). Although this latest edition highlights the difference between a survey and a questionnaire, the information is useful for questionnaire design.

Brady, B. (2012). *Theories of fate among present-day astrologers* PhD, UWTSD. Appendices – pp.301-313. Also ch.7, which is the writing up of the questionnaire results.

Hennink, M. M., Hutter, I. & Bailey, A. (2011 or 2nd edition 2020). *Qualitative Research Methods* (Los Angeles; London, SAGE). Chapters 3, 4 and 5 (as for seminar 2).

Optional Reading:

Burgess, Thomas F., [Guide to the Design of Questionnaires: A general introduction to the design of questionnaires for survey research](#), version 1.1, Leeds: Leeds University, 2001.

<https://nats-www.informatik.uni-hamburg.de/pub/User/InterculturalCommunication/top2.pdf>
[Accessed 6.1.2022].