

Dissertation Module

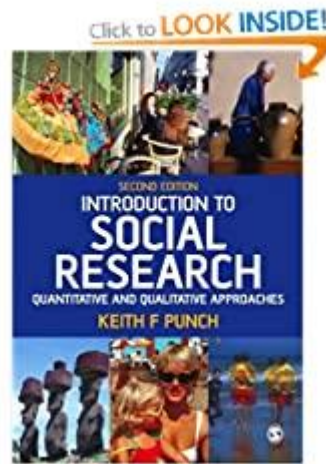
Session1

SJSS6005

PHILLIP MORGAN

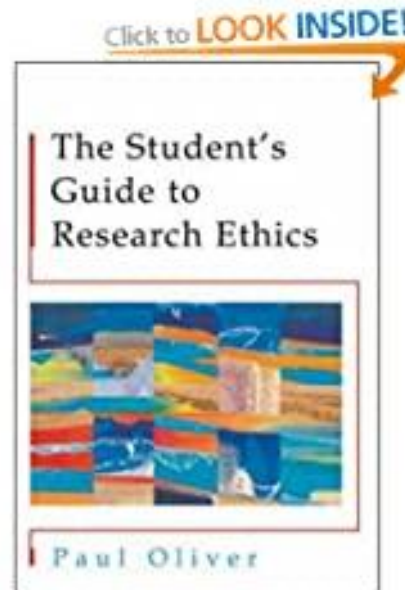
Required

- Punch K, *Introduction to Social Research Methods: Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches*, London: Sage, 2005.
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Required

Oliver P, *The Students' Guide to Research Ethics*,
Buckingham: Open University Press, 2003.



Books!

Recommended

- Louis, Cohen, Manion & Morrison (2000) *Research Methods in Education*, London: Routledge-Falmer.
- Robson C (2002) *Real World Research*, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers
- Bryman A (2001) *Social Research Methods*, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Lecture Outcomes

To understand the purpose and process of research in the social sciences

Understand the factors that influence Social Science research

Use a range of research articles and abstracts to become familiar with relevant terminology

Why Research in the Social Context?

Make a list of some of the reasons that Research in the Social Sciences is undertaken

Discuss

Why Research in Education?

Inform Policy

- Political slant (research paper - Four Errors.....)

To Inform Practice

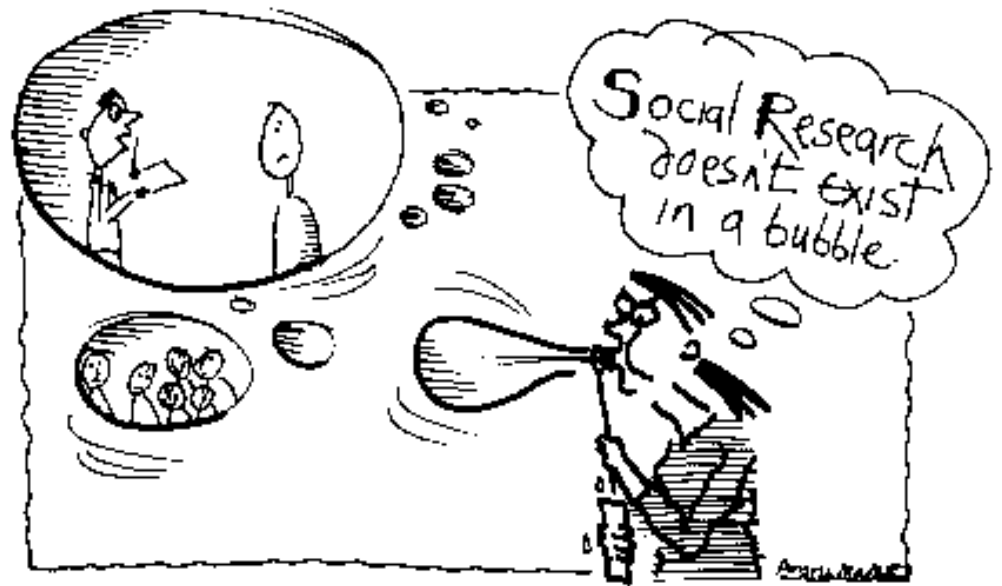
- Social Work, Education, Community Development



Types of Research

'Social research does not exist in a bubble'

(Bryman 2001).



Real World Situations

In the 'real world' or 'the field' the challenges are.....

'Saying something sensible about a complex, relatively poorly controlled and generally 'messy' situation' (Robson 2002).

Social Research Strategies

Bryman makes 2 relevant points

Methods of social research are closely tied to different visions of how social reality should be studied

Research data are collected in relation to something i.e. the wider social scientific enterprise

The Relationship between Theory and Research

Deductive and Inductive theory

Deductive

- Theory guides research

Inductive

- Theory is the outcome of research



The Process of Deduction

1. Theory
2. Hypothesis
3. Data collection
4. Findings
5. Hypothesis confirmed or rejected
6. Revision of theory

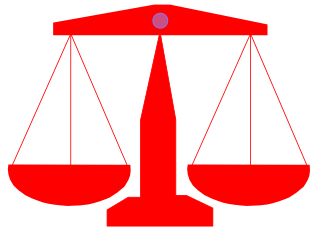


Research Considerations

Is the social world regarded as something external to social actors or something that people are in the process of fashioning?

Objectivism

Subjectivism - (constructivism)

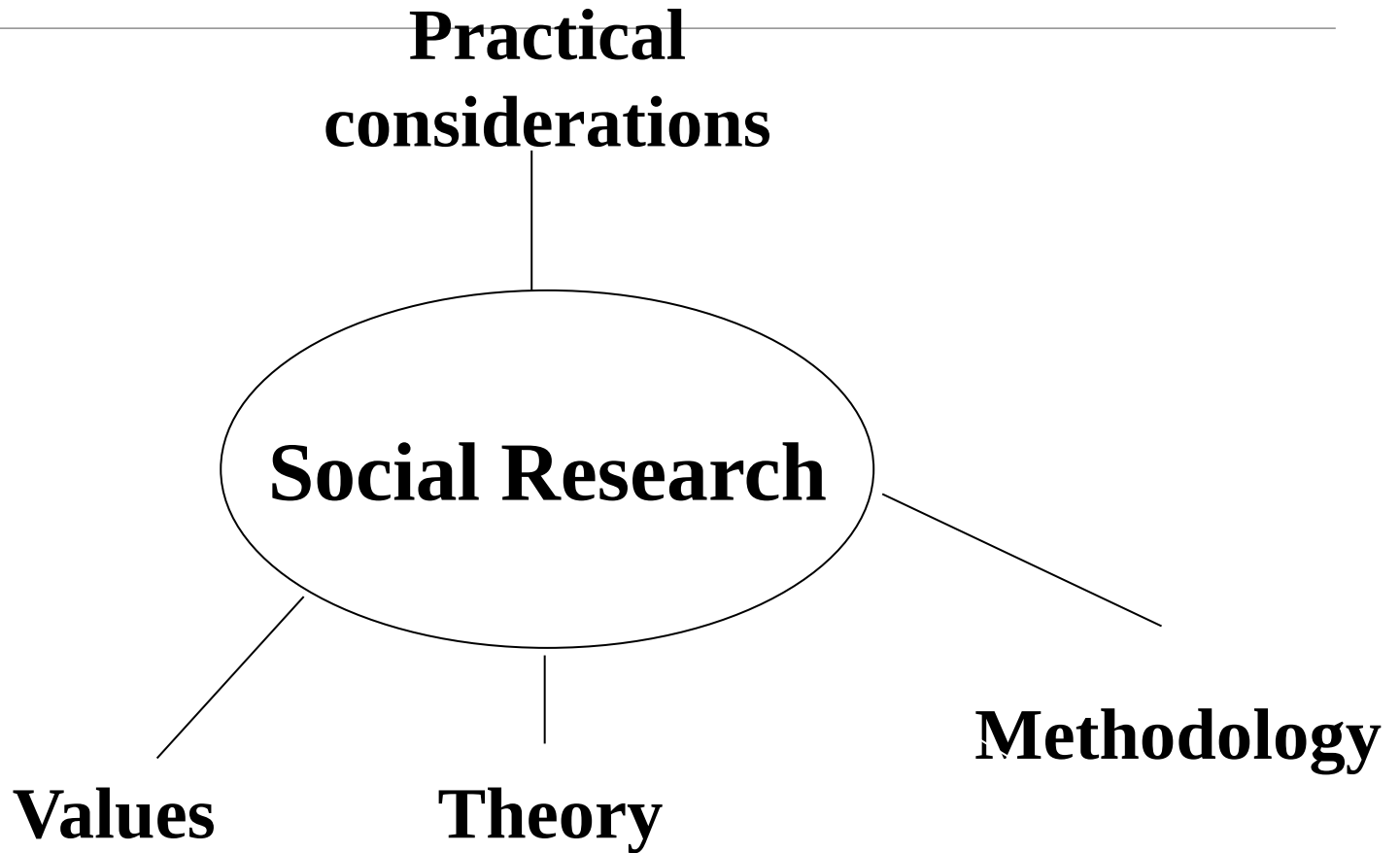


Research Strategy: Quantitative and Qualitative

Fundamental differences between quantitative and qualitative research strategies

	Quantitative	Qualitative
Principle orientation to the role of theory in relation to research	Deductive; testing of theory	Inductive; generation of theory
Epistemological orientation	Natural science model, in particular positivism	Interpretivism
Ontological orientation	Objectivism	Subjectivism (Constructionism)

Influences on the conduct of Social Research



Student Task

(In pairs/ group of three)

- ▶ If you had to undertake some social research **now** what would the topic be and what factors would have influenced your choice?



- ▶ How important was addressing theory in your consideration?