

# Qualitative Research Analysis

To systematically search, categorize, integrate, and interpret data to provide an understanding

# Impediments to Data Collection

- TIME
- Quantity of data
- Disorganization of data

# Step One

- Organize data
- Interviews (structured or semi-structured)
  - ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> organize by interview question
  - ◆ 2<sup>nd</sup> organize by initial categories
  - ◆ 3<sup>rd</sup> organize by coding (foregrounding)

# When to Analyze Data

- During data collection
  - ◆ Continue to narrow focus
  - ◆ Begin to categorize as data suggests
  - ◆ Develop new categories as data suggests
- After data collection
  - ◆ Based on induction—discovery of patterns
  - ◆ Researcher identifies variables from data

# Qualitative Research

- Turn to pages 239-52 for types of data analysis

# Triangulation of Data

- Comparing multiple sources across participants, time, and sites
- Comparing multiple independent investigators' results
- Comparing multiple methods of data analysis

# Credibility or Plausibility

- Ensuring subject was accurately identified and described
- Eliminating rival explanations of the data by comparing results to similar studies

# Transferability

- Generalizing results to other contexts

# A Methods Section

- Describing, in-depth the processes and methods used in
  - ◆ Participant selection
  - ◆ Data collection
  - ◆ Collection of data (quantity)
  - ◆ Organization of data (analysis)

# Writing the Report

- Thesis—stated position that is debated or argued
- Theme—conceptual issue or finding emerging from data
- Topic—description of process or activity

# Dey's Six Guidelines

- Engage interest through description and dramatization
- Trace the evolution of the “story”
- Develop coherence
- Select key themes
- Use simple language
- Make concepts clear and connections explicit

# An Example

- Turn to page 256-71