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# InterViews: Learning The Craft Of Qualitative Research Interviewing



## Synopsis

The First Edition of *InterViews* has provided students and professionals in a wide variety of disciplines with the *why* and *how* of research interviewing, preparing students for learning interviewing by doing interviews and by studying examples of best practice. The thoroughly revised Second Edition retains its original seven-stage structure, continuing to focus on the practical, epistemological, and ethical issues involved with interviewing. Authors Steinar Kvale and Svend Brinkmann also include coverage of newer developments in qualitative interviewing, discussion of interviewing as a craft, and a new chapter on linguistic modes of interview analysis. Practical and conceptual assignments, as well as new *tool boxes*, provide students with the means to dig deeper into the material presented and achieve a more meaningful level of understanding.

**New to This Edition**

- Includes new developments in qualitative interviewing: New materials cover narrative, discursive, and conversational analyses.
- Presents interviewing as a social practice: Knowledge produced by interviewing is discussed as linguistic, conversational, narrative, relational, situated, and pragmatic.
- Addresses a variety of interview forms: In addition to harmonious, empathetic interviews, the authors also cover confrontational interviews.

**Intended Audience** This text is ideal for both novice and experienced interview researchers as well as graduate students taking courses in qualitative and research methods in the social sciences and health sciences, particularly departments of Education, Nursing, Sociology, Psychology, and Communication.

**Praise for the previous edition:** *"I think this is one of the most in-depth treatments of the interview process that I have seen. The frank and realistic approach that the authors take to this topic is rather unique and will be very reassuring to researchers who are undertaking an interview study for the first time."*

— Lisa M. Diamond, University of Utah

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Steinar Kvale (1938-2008) was professor of educational psychology and director of the Centre of Qualitative Research at the University of Aarhus, and adjunct faculty at Saybrook Institute, San Francisco. He was born in Norway and graduated from the University of Oslo. He continued his studies at the University of Heidelberg with an Alexander von Humboldt scholarship and was a visiting professor at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, and West Georgia University, Carrolton, and the University of Bergen. His long-term concern was with the implications of such continental philosophies as phenomenology, hermeneutics, and dialectics for psychology and education. Svend Brinkmann is professor of psychology in the Department of Communication and Psychology at the University of Aalborg, Denmark, where he serves as co-director of the Center for Qualitative Studies with Lene Tanggaard. His research is particularly concerned with philosophical, moral, and methodological issues in psychology and other human and social sciences. He is author and co-author of numerous articles and books, including *John Dewey: Science for a Changing World*, *Qualitative Inquiry in Everyday Life*, and *Qualitative Interviewing*.

Steinar Kvale and Svend Brinkmann, in this new, updated edition, continue to provide the qualitative research community with one of the best. This book is a classic, at this point, which means that it has withstood the test of time. It is particularly appropriate for people interested in a phenomenological and hermeneutical (or interpretive) approach to interviews. This new edition contains expanded discussions in the context of critical, feminist, narrative, discursive, constructionsist, and other forms of interviews and the varieties of ways one can frame and conduct them. This edition exists because it is a solid and trustworthy guide to interviewing as a craft rather than a procedure. I have used this book as the main source for my dissertation research because it is just that good. It is clear, well-organized, well-written, and relevant.

If you are planning on doing any interview of any kind, this is a great book to have. I have also read the other two most widely used resources for this methodolgy - Spradley's *The Ethnographic Interview* and Seidman's *Interviewing as Qualitative Research* - and they are not quite as user friendly as this text. Those other books are also great resources and should also be consulted if you

are doing professional research, but I suggest starting with Kvale and Brinkmann as they explain things in a much clearer way. While this book does contain information on several different analytical traditions, it concerns itself primarily with phenomenology. Phenomenology is used in all of their primary examples, dedicating entire chapters to its practices and usage, while other traditions such as narrative analysis, deconstruction, or discourse analysis are all jammed into a single chapter and receive cursory treatments. No book can be everything, however, and this one is extremely good for what it is. I was severely lost on my dissertation proposal until I picked this one up. Highly recommended.

Helped me understand the hermenutic circle and how to do an effective interview. The book is accessible and also very helpful.

This book assisted me in my doctoral research...very good resource.

This book is an easy read and clearly explains how to conduct interviews. The book helps the reader progress from the proposal and questions to the actual interviews. As a PhD student beginning to do qualitative research I have found this to be a very helpful resource.

The book was in great condition!

It's an alright book. It does what it needs to but didn't particularly move me in any way to feel it's any more effective than any other book.

I would recommend this book to each person interested in qualitative research, based especially on interviews. The authors presented solid work which can help to beginners, students or people writing their own thesis or research.

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