

One day Workshop on Research Methodology

North East Institute of Social Sciences and Research conducted a workshop on Research Methodology on the topic Qualitative research on 14th March 2023 at NEISSR Hall. The resource person for the workshop was Dr. Fr. Abraham Lotha, former Principal of St. Joseph College Jakhama. He stated that qualitative research is a methodological approach used to explore and understand complex phenomena in-depth. Unlike quantitative research that focuses on numerical data and statistical analysis, qualitative research emphasizes gathering rich, detailed, and subjective information.

Key points highlighted during the workshop regarding qualitative research included:

1. **Purpose and Focus:** Qualitative research aims to delve into the meaning, experiences, perspectives, and social contexts surrounding a particular phenomenon. It often seeks to answer "how" and "why" questions rather than "what" or "how many."
2. **Data Collection Methods:** Qualitative researchers employ various methods to collect data, such as interviews, focus groups, observations, and document analysis. These methods allow researchers to gather detailed information, explore nuances, and understand the perspectives of participants.
3. **Data Analysis:** Qualitative data analysis involves a systematic process of organizing, interpreting, and making sense of the collected data. Common approaches include thematic analysis, content analysis, grounded theory, and narrative analysis. Researchers often look for patterns, themes, and relationships within the data to generate insights.
4. **Flexibility and Depth:** Qualitative research is flexible and adaptable, allowing researchers to adjust their approach based on emerging findings. It allows for in-depth exploration of complex issues, capturing the richness and diversity of human experiences.
5. **Validity and Trustworthiness:** Qualitative researchers prioritize the validity and trustworthiness of their findings. They use strategies such as triangulation (using multiple data sources or methods), member checking (seeking feedback from participants), and reflexivity (acknowledging and addressing the researcher's biases and assumptions) to enhance the credibility of their research.
6. **Ethical Considerations:** Ethical considerations are paramount in qualitative research, particularly regarding participant confidentiality, informed consent, and the researcher's role and responsibilities. Researchers must adhere to ethical guidelines and ensure the well-being and rights of participants throughout the research process.

Overall, qualitative research offers a holistic and nuanced understanding of complex phenomena, contributing valuable insights to fields such as social sciences, psychology, anthropology, education, and healthcare.

The workshop concluded with an interactive session and a vote of thanks by Ms. Elizabeth Pojar, Assistant Professor NEISSR.



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Dr. Fr. Abraham Lotha, Resource Person

Reported By:

NEISSR Desk