INTERVIEW AS A RESEARCH METHOD: THEORETICAL ASPECTS

SUMMARY: This paper talks about the theoretical aspects of interview as a research method in humanities. The aim is to present the grounding theories for the method, and so argument against common researchers’ bias against this method. The paper starts with the key elements of positivist and naturalistic scientific paradigms in order to link and contrast certain aspects of quantitative and qualitative research methods. Further on, theoretical aspects of interviews are presented, such as the types, purpose, procedures, data analysis and drawing conclusions. Problematic issues with interviews are presented next. In the final part of the paper validity of research with interview is discussed. It can be concluded that irrespective of the fact that interview is quite a demanding method, it carries a great potential and allows for valid and relevant conclusions if conducted properly.

KEY WORDS: interview, research method, qualitative research, validity, naturalistic paradigm