Butt, Trevor and Burr, Vivien

Making the most of methods: the future for PCP?

Original Citation


This version is available at http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/id/eprint/7958/

The University Repository is a digital collection of the research output of the University, available on Open Access. Copyright and Moral Rights for the items on this site are retained by the individual author and/or other copyright owners. Users may access full items free of charge; copies of full text items generally can be reproduced, displayed or performed and given to third parties in any format or medium for personal research or study, educational or not-for-profit purposes without prior permission or charge, provided:

- The authors, title and full bibliographic details is credited in any copy;
- A hyperlink and/or URL is included for the original metadata page; and
- The content is not changed in any way.

For more information, including our policy and submission procedure, please contact the Repository Team at: E.mailbox@hud.ac.uk.

http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Viv Burr and Trevor Butt

Centre for Applied Psychological Research
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Introduction

- PCP in academic psychology
- The rise of qualitative methods
- PCP methods as qualitative methods
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative approaches and epistemology

- subjectivist
- interpretivist
- constructivist or constructionist
- personal and social meaning rather than measurement or objective description
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative approaches and epistemology

Roots in:
- Social constructionism
- Phenomenology
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative approaches and epistemology

- Discourse analysis
- A ‘family’ of phenomenological approaches
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative approaches and epistemology
Phenomenology: ‘lived’ experience

- Focus on wholeness of experience
- Focus on individual meaning rather than causal explanation
- Description of experience via first-person accounts
- Reflexivity of researcher

(Moustakas, 1994)
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative approaches and epistemology
Phenomenological approaches include:

Grounded theory
Empirical phenomenological research
Heuristic research
Ethnography and narrative approaches
Hermeneutics
...and PCP
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative approaches and epistemology

Phenomenological approaches focus on subjective experience and the ‘life world’
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative approaches and epistemology
Narrative psychology (eg White and Epston, 1990)
- roots in phenomenology
- links with constructivism and social constructionism

“Narratives do not mirror the past, they refract it”
(Kohler Riessman, 2004: 708)
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative approaches and epistemology

Feminist psychology (e.g., Wilkinson, 1996)

Aims to give women and marginalised groups a ‘voice’
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative approaches and Epistemology

Importance of subjective experience
Democracy and ‘voice’
Not deterministic/essentialist
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative methods of data collection and analysis
Narrow range of methods of data collection and analysis

Predominance of:
- Semi-structured depth interview
- Thematic analysis
- Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (Smith, 1996)
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative methods of data collection and analysis

Other methods include:
- Template Analysis (King, 2004)
- Critical Narrative Analysis (Langdridge, 2007)
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative methods of data collection and analysis

- Phenomenological interviews and analysis
  - Descriptive
  - Interpretative
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative methods of data collection and analysis
Phenomenological interviews and analysis

- Semi structured interviews and thematic analysis
- Interviewing is highly skilled
- Psychologically and socially complex issues are hard to articulate
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative methods of data collection and analysis
PCP: phenomenological qualitative methods
- The specific or ‘concrete’
- ‘imaginative variation’
- Role Repertory Test
- Repertory Grid Interview eg Butt, Burr and Bell (1997)
- Salmon Line (Salmon, 1994)
- Pictor technique (Hargreaves, 1979) eg Ross, King and Firth (2005); King, Melvin and Ashby (in press)
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Qualitative methods of data collection and analysis
PCP: phenomenological qualitative methods: The self characterisation sketch

- Observation of sequence & transition
- Observation of organization
- Reflection against context
- Collation of terms
- Shifting emphasis:
  - On the whole he tries to impress people especially his elders, with his knowledge poise, and sincerity
- Restatement of the argument
- Analysis of context, themes and construct dimensions
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Summary and conclusions

- Perceptions of things, people and events
- The nature of selfhood: self characterisation sketch
- Socially shared constructs and construal of relationships: family grids (Procter)
- The relational nature of selfhood
- Concrete and visual: eg Salmon Line and Pictor
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Summary and conclusions
- Laddering and pyramiding (Hinkle, Landfield and Fransella)
- Systemic bow-ties (Procter)
- Core process interviews (Jones)
- ABC (Tschudi)
- Who Are You? (Ravenette)
- Snakes and Rivers (Denicolo')
Making the Most of Methods: The future for PCP?

Summary and conclusions

- Qualitative Research
- Qualitative Enquiry
- Qualitative Health Research
- Qualitative Research in Psychology
- Present at other conferences