

Lecture 13: Philosophy of Science

An initial overview

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Is Psychology a Science?

The Ongoing Debate

- **Positivism in Psychology:** Traditional view supporting quantitative methods, treating human behavior as stable, measurable facts.
- **Qualitative Shift:** A focus on dynamic, ever-changing aspects of human behavior, challenging the idea of fixed patterns, and possibly facts!
- Source: (**parker2011?**)

The Role of Qualitative Research

- **Qualitative vs. Quantitative:** The debate isn't about the validity of quantification but the quality of its application in psychology.
- Where is Psychology's non-stick frying pan? (Banyard, 2015)
- **Advancing Scientific Debate:** Qualitative research is at the forefront of discussions about the nature of scientific inquiry in psychology.
- Source: (Parker, 2004)