The following appeared in an article written by Dr. Karp, an anthropologist.

"Twenty years ago, Dr. Field, a noted anthropologist, visited the island of Tertia and concluded from his observations that children in Tertia were reared by an entire village rather than by their own biological parents. However, my recent interviews with children living in the group of islands that includes Tertia show that these children spend much more time talking about their biological parents than about other adults in the village. This research of mine proves that Dr. Field's conclusion about Tertian village culture is invalid and thus that the observation-centered approach to studying cultures is invalid as well. The interview-centered method that my team of graduate students is currently using in Tertia will establish a much more accurate understanding of child-rearing traditions there and in other island cultures."

*Write a response in which you examine the stated and/or unstated assumptions of the argument. Be sure to explain how the argument depends on these assumptions and what the implications are for the argument if the assumptions prove unwarranted.*

Main assertion, conclusion, prediction

Dr fields conclusion is invalid about tertian village culture and thus the observation centered approach is invalid and an interview -centered method is more accurate in understanding of the cultures..

Evidence: recent interviews with the children living in the group of islands that include tertia talk more about their biological parents than about other adults in the village and thus the observation centered methods are invalid as well and interview centered methods used by his team is more accurate in understanding the child rearing tradition

Analysis :

1. The dr karp is assuming that technique used 20 years before would yield the same results as it yields now
2. Dr field and his team specifically observed the children from the island of tertia but dr karp and his team are intervirewing kids from the group of island , which tertia is part of

Obv the sample size has expanded so the results might be different as its possible that majority of the kids in other island were actually raised by their own parents

1. Also dr field observed the behavior of kids and not actually talked to them so there is no way of knowing what they actually thought…

In an article written by Dr karp, an anthropologist, he has asserted that the observations made by Dr field a noted anthropologist about the child rearing methods of people of the village of Tertia are incorrect and he also states that the interview based method of studying these cultures employed by him and his team of grad students is better than the observation based methods employed by Dr Field. However, before this assertion is evaluated 2 questions need to be answered.

First of all, can the results observed 20 years back and the results observed in the present time be compared to each other? Dr Field conducted his study by employing the observation based method where he observed the children of the village of tertia 20 years back, now is it safe to assume that during those 20 years there were no major or even minor cultural changes at all? It’s a fairly possible scenario that the kids today might feel differently or more importantly the parents might feel different about the methods adopted in the past and might have changed those and gave more attention to their kids rather than leaving them to be raised as a whole by the community. Hence when dr karp interviewd the kids he might have gotten a different set of responses which show that the kids have a rather strong inclination towards their parents than other adults and hence talk about them much. If any of the above scenarios holds water then the assertion made by dr karp is significantly weakened.

Secondly, dr field observed the children of the village of tertia only as mentioned in the article by dr karp. Now as mentioned in the article, dr karp and his team of grad students interviewd the kids of the group of islands that includes tertia and thus its safe to say that atleast the sample size of the two researches isn’t the same. Its possible that the children from the other islands in that group of islands are raised by their parents and thus they talk a lot about them. Dr karp hasn’t specifically mentioned whether the children from tertia talk a lot about their parents or not. So is it safe to assume that the trend applicable to maybe one or two islands in the group of islands that includes tertia is applicable everywhere? If the above scenario holds any ground then this assertion by dr karp is also significantly weakened.

In conclusion, the article by dr karp stands considerably flawed due to reliance on several unwarranted assumptions. If dr karp is able to answer the two questions asked above then it will be easier to believe his assertion of interview-based methods being better than observation-based methods in studying the child rearing techniques employed in these group of islands.