

# ETHNOGRAPHIC INTERVIEW WORKSHEET

Name of ethnography (you): Grace Roberts

Name of cultural informant (partner): Harris Roberts

## PART 1: EMIC (INSIDER) PERSPECTIVE

1. What does your group call itself?

This group calls itself snowboarders, and there exist several different types within the group like freestyle, backcountry, and park snowboarders.

2. What is your group's history?

Snowboarding is much newer than skiing and somewhat evolved out of skateboarding culture. Traditionally, it's been looked down upon by skiers and continues to be.

3. How is your group organized?

It's not necessarily organized, but there are some divisions between groups who snowboard as a hobby and those who snowboard competitively.

4. What is your relation to or position in the group?

They snowboard for fun, some park and some freeride, and like to watch competitive snowboarding.

5. When and how did you become a member of this group?

They grew up skiing on family trips, eventually wanted to try snowboarding and got better at it than they were skiing and therefore stuck with it.

6. How do you interact with other members of your group?

Most of their friends ski instead of snowboard, but they bond with other snowboarders over love of the sport and their communal distaste for skiers.

7. What beliefs or values unite your group?

They believe in the art of the send — which is usually more reckless and more ambitious than the tricks or jumps sent by skiers.

8. Which customs or traditions do you practice?

Bringing a speaker along on the trail or listening to music while they snowboard, but overall everyone does their own thing and is unique in how they approach snowboarding.

9. What foods or drinks are associated with your group?

Redbull and other energy drinks, and overpriced resort food like fries and nuggets.

10. What kind of clothing or adornment does your group wear?

Snowboarders are very into gear, flannels, beanies, baggy clothing, and snowboarding street style.

11. What sayings, words, or phrases does your group use?

Stoked, butter, “send it”, huck or “huck it”, shred, gnarly, park rat, lifty.

12. What do you do for entertainment?

Snowboard and watch videos about snowboarding.

13. What symbols, styles, or visual arts are associated with your group?

Movies and documentaries about snowboarding, company logos, more style in terms of fashion and street style for snowboarding culture.

14. What makes your group different from others like it?

It’s a welcoming community, but can be trickier to get into (similar to skiing) because of location or economic barriers.

15. How do you think outsiders perceive your group?

Outsiders view it as perhaps more degenerate than skiing and a lot of skiers look down on snowboarders. Most people view it similar to skateboarding and the stereotypes involved in skate culture.

## **PART 2: ETIC (OUTSIDER) PERSPECTIVE**

16. What did you know about your partner’s group before the interview?

I knew a fair amount because I have friends and family who snowboard, and the culture is quite similar to what I’ve experienced in skiing culture.

17. What did your partner know about your group before the interview?

Similarly, my partner knows that I ski and the majority of his friends ski, so the culture and customs are familiar to him from repeated experience.

18. Were your preconceptions confirmed or denied by this interview?

Confirmed, for the most part, going off of my own personal experience and what I know to be true of snowboarding’s relationship with skiing.

19. How well do you think you represented your group in your interview?

I think that skiing is so broad and has so many subgroups that I represented the general culture of skiing well, but maybe not as specifically for some smaller groups; for example, I don’t ski park and that subgroup have very specific lingo, style, and traditions.

20. What realizations about your own group did you have while learning about your partner’s?

That the group is so massive and the traditions really have evolved with the expansion of media, the advancement in technology and equipment, and the ability to travel more often. My partner’s answers reminded me of how much my

group is rooted in tradition as opposed to his group's newer take on snowsports and how that's pushing skiing to be more inclusive.