

E-research methods, strategies, and issues

Anderson, Terry - Kanuka, Heather

2003



Table of contents

1 CHAPTER SEVEN

- Page 91
- Page 92
- Page 93

Chapter Title

SEMI-STRUCTURED AND UNSTRUCTURED INTERVIEWS

Interview

Fontana and Frey (1994)

“As we treat the other as a human being, we can no longer remain objective, faceless interviewers, but become human beings and must disclose ourselves, learning about ourselves as we try to learn about the other”

Weber (1986)

“Inviting someone to participate in an interview is extending an invitation to participate in a conversation and build a relationship”

Letter of Invitation

The e-researcher normally begins the interview process with a letter of invitation.

Letter of invitation

- If the e-researcher does not get a response, the letter should be followed-up with an email message.
- Once the prospective participant has agreed to participate, a friendly and somewhat informal message should be sent describing:
 - The purpose of the study
 - The process used to maintain confidentiality
 - How the data will be secured
 - when and how the results of the study will be disseminated

Conducting Net-based interviews

Correspondence should begin the Net-based interviews

- ① Establish an informal and friendly conversational tone
- ② Appropriate use of humor, self-disclosure, or narrative
- ③ Share our own uncertainty and nervousness
- ④ Ask relevant questions