LECTURE THREE

Literature Review

Literature review is a survey of scholarly sources on a specific topic. It provides an overview of current knowledge and allowing researcher to identify relevant theories, methods and gaps in the existing research.

Why Literature Review?

a) To understand what has been done in the field:
b) To know existing state of the field:
c) To evaluate the direction of inquiry in the field:
d) To justify why present study is necessary:
e) To identify and bridge the gap in the field:
f) To contribute to the existing knowledge:
g) To avoid misuse of time in repeating what has been well-known and reported to the academic journals:

Parts of Literature Review

a) Theoretical literature review: This is a first part in the literature review that involves the definitions of key concepts and various discussions of relevant theories or models.
b) Empirical literature review: It is second part available in the literature review that involves critical analysis of the past study or work related to the researcher's current study. Empirical literature review also enables a researcher to identify the gap from past or existing studies.
c) Research gap: This is research question or problem that has not been studied or answered in the past studies. Gap can be identified through analysis of the past researches (empirical analysis).

Theoretical Framework

It is a conceptual model or diagram that is used to explain the relationship between variables identified in the study. Theoretical framework is a conceptual model based on the theories and relationship among the factors.

Features of Theoretical/Conceptual Framework

a) In TF, all variables relevant to the study should be identified:
b) The relationship between variables should be clearly identified:
c) The nature and direction can be theorized based on the past research findings:
d) T/CF is a foundation for the research projects:
e) Underlying/underpinning theory:

Hypothesis Development

Hypothesis is the prediction of the relationship between two or more variables in the study that can be tested through the scientific research. If you want to test a relationship between two or more variables, you need to write hypotheses before you start your experiment or data collection.

Types of Hypothesis

a) Directional hypothesis: It is the one in which researcher uses a specific direction (such as higher, lower, more or less) to show the relationship between two or more variables in the study.
b) Non-directional hypothesis: It is type of hypothesis in which a researcher does not use a specific direction to explain about the relationship exists between two or more variables in the study.