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Thematic analysis for the individual gender experience study

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The individual gender experience study is possible under the condition of taking into account its multifacetedness and unique character.

The feminist methodology focuses on the subject's feelings, desires and interests.

The methodology in which attention is focused on women's experience and the choice of methods for researching it, in particular the qualitative ones, is considered as the alternative to feminist methodologies.



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THE AIM

- is to justify the thematic analysis use as a qualitative method for individual gender experience study.



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Female experience was interpreted by feminists as heterogeneous and plural one. It includes three dimensions:

- 1) experience is specific for women unlike men;
- 2) the experience of women members who belong to the movement against discrimination based on sex;
- 3) the experience of women who belong to the second wave generation of the feminist movement.



Multidimensional female experience generates the need for the formation of a new postures methodology theory and new research techniques, because the classical models turned out to be gender-insensitive.



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In response to the outlined problem , four epistemological vectors:

Feminist empiricism;

Positionalism;

Social constructionism;

Postmodernism.



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S. Harding notes, feminist research has its own specifics, which provides:

- 1. "Alternative origins of problems primarily affecting women".
- 2. Formulation of "alternative explanatory hypotheses".
- 3. Formulation of "new research goals" which provide for women's awareness their role in gender relations transformation.
- 4. A change in relationship nature between the subject and the object of knowledge.



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Feminist researchers justify the need to apply qualitative research methods to the research

practice needs:

- if it is necessary to find out the meaning of the respondent's answer;
- to clarify aspects of the subjects' thoughts;
- to influence the opinions formation;
- to analyze complex installations;
- to come up with motivational interpretations;
- to carry out interpretation of statistical interrelations, first of all, cases that deviate from the average statistical norm;
- to analyze the effects and processes of acquiring individual experience as a reaction to certain situations;
- to identify the limits of the individual's possibilities repertoire



Thematic analysis should be considered as the main method of analysis

- It is the first qualitative method of analysis that should be studied by researchers since it provides the basic skills that are necessary for many other forms of analysis (Holloway and Todres, 2003).
- the thematic analysis should be viewed as an independent method that has all the necessary characteristics (Brown and Clark, 2006)



Thematic analysis is a method of identification, analysing and reporting within the (topic) data

- The thematic analysis assumes the individual topics selection in the text, which can be numerous in number;
- The thematic analysis is different from other analytical methods which attempt to describe data on a base of template, makes emphasis at the experience (Holloway, Todres, 2003)



Stages of the thematic analysis are:

- 1) acquaintance with the data, the verbal data transcription;
- 2) the source codes creation;
- 3) topics search;
- 4) the topics content analysis;
- 5) the topics names definition;
- 6) report preparation.



CONCLUSIONS

- the method of thematic analysis is a flexible, qualitative method that allows you to explore the individual gender experience and it can be effectively used in a variety of research practices and epistemologies.



THANK YOU!



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