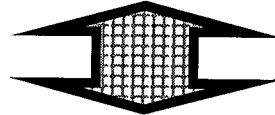


# **MISSIOLOGICAL RESEARCH**

# RESEARCH TRADITION

## **WORLDVIEW**

*(foundational assumptions)*



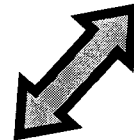
## **RESEARCH TRADITION**

- questions it asks
- data it gathers
- methods it uses

**THEORY 1**

**THEORY 2**

**THEORY 3**



# STUDYING HUMANS

- ***reflexivity: remember when we study people we are studying ourselves***
- ***perspective:***
  - **emic: the way people see things–**
    - = the people we study
    - = our own perspective
  - **etic: a comparative grid that enables us to compare emic perspectives**

# DOING HUMAN RESEARCH

## 1. Purposes:

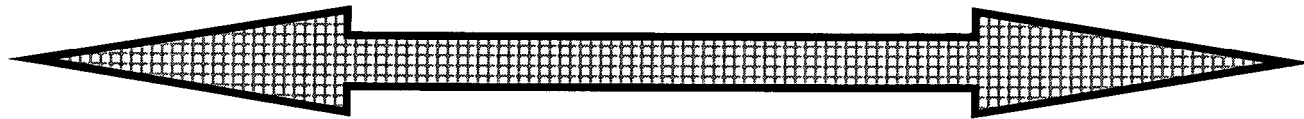
- to understand the nature of communication
- to understand our new culture and society
- to observe our biases and mistakes and make corrections
- to discover more effective ways of communication
- to understand Scripture better
- to raise awareness and motivation to action

## **2. Types of Research:**

- **descriptive**
- **explanatory**
- **comparative**
- **evaluative**

# RESEARCH METHODS

**QUALITATIVE**



**Particular** ↔ **General**

**In-depth** ↔ **Survey**

**Street level** ↔ **Balcony**

**QUANTITATIVE**

# **3. Qualitative – Quantitative**

---

- **qualitative**
- **grounded theory**
- **quantitative**

# **APPROACHES TO THE STUDY OF HUMAN SITUATIONS**

## **MACRO ANALYSIS**

- balcony view
- demographic, macro, quantitative, survey  
big picture
- detached observations  
etic, scientific
- reductionist, focus on a few  
variables

**USEFUL FOR MISSION EXECUTIVES**

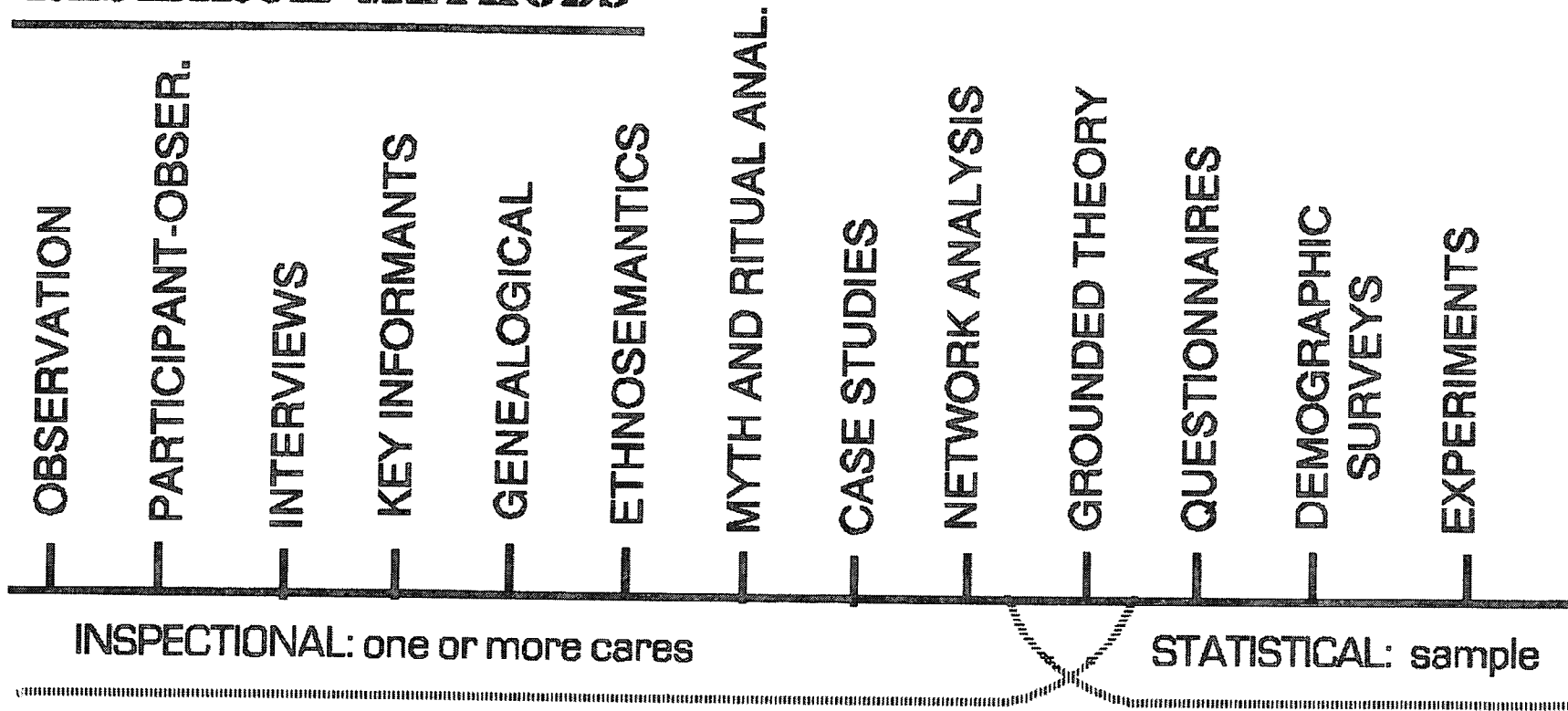
## **MICRO ANALYSIS**

- street level view
- participant-observation,  
micro, qualitative, thick  
description, human view
- involvement with people,  
emic/etic, humanistic
- wholistic, many variables,

**USEFUL FOR FIELD MISSIONARIES**



# RESEARCH METHODS



QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS ↔ QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

- particulars
- in-depth, 'thick description'
- see humanity

- generalizations
- survey
- see macro-systemic

# ANTHROPOLOGY'S METHODOLOGICAL BIAS

- **street level analysis**
  - **participant observation**
- **small microcosms**
  - **fine grained, thick description**
- **double vision:**
  - **the way we see things**
  - **the way they see things (*emic*)**
  - **a metacultural grid to compare (*etic*)**

# ANTHROPOLOGICAL APPROACHES

- ***Ethnography:***  
the study of a particular society/culture as an integrated whole
- ***Ethnology:***  
a comparison of societies/cultures to develop broad theories about humans

**ETHNOGRAPHY**

Social

Economic

Political/legal

Symbols

Beliefs

Worldview

**ETHNOLOGY**

Culture A

Culture B

Culture C

Culture D

Culture E

	Culture A	Culture B	Culture C	Culture D	Culture E
Social					
Economic					
Political/legal					
Symbols					
Beliefs					
Worldview					

# **OBSERVATION**

**1. Simplest: can be done almost anywhere.**

- **map space and time**
- **observe behavior patterns**
- **note signs**
- **listen to speech**
- 
- 

**2. Easily Overlooked Later:**

- **so gather this early**

# **PARTICIPANT-OBSERVATION**

- **Observer.**
- 

- **Observer as participant.**
- 

- **Participant as observe.**
- 

- **Participant.**

# **INTERVIEW**

## **1. Unstructured:**

- informal**
- unguided**
- flexible, uncontrolled**

## **2. Semi-structured:**

- interview schedules**
- essay questions**
- gives focus and direction**

## **3. Structured:**

- formal interviews**
- questionnaires**
- control, test hypotheses**

# **KEY INFORMANTS**

- **expert in a field**
  - **sensitive data**
  - **co-researcher**
- 
- **has a perspective/bias**
  - **demands on your time**
  - **hard to get best experts**
- 
- \* **compensation**
  - \* **withdrawal**



# **ETHNOSEMANTIC ANALYSIS**

- **gather the terms in a semantic field**
- **organize them into semantic domains**
- **examine the relationships between the categories and the domains**

**GROUP THESE INTO LARGER  
CATEGORIES:**

---

**TREE**

**LION**

**SAND**

**WOMAN**

**ANGEL**

**BUSH**

**COW**

**ROCK**

**GIRL**

**WHALE**

**DEER**

**GOD**

**DEMON**

**DOG**

**GRASS**

**MAN**

**FISH**

**RAKSHASA**

**VIRUS**

**GHOST**

**MICKEY  
MOUSE**

**ANCESTOR**

**U.F.O.**

**S**  
**N**

**GOD**  
**ANGELS, DEMONS**

**N**

**WOMAN, MAN,**  
**GIRL**

**LION, COW, DEER,**  
**DOG**

**WHALE FISH**

**TREE, BUSH, GRASS**

**ROCK, SAND**

# MODERN WORLDVIEW: DUALISM

## ***SUPERNATURAL***

gods,  
angels & demons

## **RELIGION**

- ▶ other worlds
- ▶ miracles
- ▶ private faith

## ***NATURAL***

humans  
animals  
plants  
matter

## **SCIENCE**

- ▶ this world
- ▶ natural laws
- ▶ public truth

# **MODERN VIEWS OF EVIL AND OPPRESSION**

---

## **MODERN SECULAR VIEW**

## **MODERN CHRISTIAN VIEW**

### ***SUPERNATURAL***

**battle in heavens  
between God and his  
angels, and Satan  
and his demons**

---

### ***NATURAL***

**battle on earth  
between systems  
and individuals**

### ***NATURAL***

**battle on earth  
between systems  
and individuals**

# MASAI WORLDVIEW

---

**MAN**  
**LION**  
**WHALE**

**WOMAN**  
**COW**

**TREE**  
**BUSH**  
**FISH**  
**BIRD**  
**ROCK**  
**DOG**  
**GRASS**

**GOD**  
**ANGELS**  
**DEMONS**  
**VIRUS**

# The Emergence of the Modern Worldview

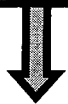
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MEDIEVAL WV.    MODERN WV.

---

CREATOR

GOD



CREATION

Angels &  
Demons  
-----  
Humans  
-----  
Animals  
-----  
Plants  
-----  
Matter

SUPERNATURAL

GOD  
Angles &  
Demons

**RELIGION**

- faith, private truth
- other-worldly problems
- miracles
- sacred

EXCLUDED

MIDDLE ZONE

NATURAL

Humans  
Animals  
Plants  
Matter

**SCIENCE**

- experience, public truth
- this-worldly problems
- natural order
- secular



# CASE METHOD

- **a case is a social event that has a beginning, a process and an end.**
  - *a ritual*
  - *a human life*
  - *a crime and court case*
  - *a battle or war*
  - *a game*
  - *a class period*
  - *etc.*



- ***gather a number of cases and look for underlying patterns and socio-cultural principles***

- ***uses of cases:***
  - **research**
  - **teaching**
-

## **Some other research methods**

- analysis of rituals and myths
- network analysis
- questionnaires
- projective tests
- semantic differentials
- statistical analysis
- participatory research and action