

Lecture – watch the movie "Salmer fra Kjøkkendet (Kitchen Stories) by Bent Hamer

When watching the movie I would like for you to think about the following questions and discuss them with your group.

- How would you describe the research paradigm of the Swedish fieldworker (positivist, interpretive, critical)? Justify your choice.
 - What kind of field study is the Swedish fieldworker conducting: qualitative / quantitative?
 - What kind of data is the Swedish fieldworker (supposed) to generate?
 - What is assumed to be activities in a kitchen?
 - What is happening in the kitchen?
 - Has this to do with the difference between description / prescription?
 - Do you see a particular focus of observation (on event, person, place, object) in the movie?
 - What kind of communication is taking place in the movie (talk, and.....)?
 - How would you describe the interaction and dynamic between observer / observed?
 - What is happening and how?
 - What does such interaction and dynamic teach you (as a researcher) about the conduct of field work and engagement in the field?
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- Did you observe something interesting you would like to share with the class?

ENJOY!

NEXT WEEK

Readings for Oct. 3rd.

Silverman, chap. 6 + 7

Thoresen, K. (1999): Appendix D: Grounded Theory. In *Computer Use*. PhD Thesis, University of Oslo, Department of Informatics. (An exposition of how grounded theory was used in a concrete study) (Handout).

Optional

A Strauss, S Fagerhaugh, B Suczek, C Wiener (1985): Appendix: Methodological Note. In *Social Organization of Medical Work*. (Also from a concrete study, by one of the founders of the approach).

Fourth exercise - Second Interview – individual assignment – Due on Oct 10th.

Interview Skills: Exploring your domain(s) of interest

This second interview exercise continues your warming up and beginning to practice your fieldwork skills. Arrange an interview with someone whose work interests you regarding the domain(s) for your masters or doctoral research – a colleague, a faculty member, a professional acquaintance. Domains can follow those for your working group such as software development, participatory design, GIS, health informatics, computer supported collaborative learning, knowledge management, or a domain area more closely related to your research-in-progress.

Plan for a one-hour, intensive, exploratory interview, not to last less than 45 minutes nor more than an hour and a half. In contrast to the first (non-recorded) interview, arrange to audio record this interview and be sure that you have the person's consent for audio recording.

Draft a list of four to six exploratory questions to get at understanding the person's research and/or professional experience in a domain that interests you – you can decide how to ask the questions and the person whom you interview can interpret your question in a variety of ways. You may or may not end up asking all of your questions, and the person's responses may lead you to ask different questions. Use the time to develop the interview as a special kind of conversation, listening and seeking to understand the person's experience, perspective and reflections on the domain.

Audio record this interview. (Do not video record the interview.) You will also want to jot down key terms and phrases during the interview, to note highlights and to note key words to guide you in conducting the interview. Immediately upon finishing the interview, make some notes to yourself about key words, phrases, and passages – these notes will help you focus in listening back to the interview and in summarizing it.

Listen back to the interview all the way through. Do not transcribe the interview verbatim (unless you have reasons beyond the assignment to do so!) – to transcribe an hour long interview can take 4-6 hours. Rather, create a "log" of topics to organize your notes from the interview -- identifying the flow of questions and answers but also indicating topics as they come up, highlighting important comments, key phrases and passages. You will want to transcribe selected statements as exact quotes (verbatim) – direct quotes for 3 to 5 points you feel are most important will be enough, so that you don't spend too long on the process of listening back and annotating the recorded interview.

The summary of the interview should include: Your name; a pseudonym (not the real name) for the respondent and his/her occupation; a brief reference to the setting in which the interview was conducted, your pre-prepared questions, and a description of the interview, its key points, 3-5 direct quotes, what you learned about the domain. Conclude with your reflections on the interview and on the use of audio recording: the interactions and dynamics between yourself and the person interviewed, your analysis of topics explored, how you experienced audio recording the interview (in contrast to your non-recorded interview), how having the interview audio recorded affected your analysis of the interview, any comments about what the interview suggests for your on-going research plans, any other observations you have.

The description should be typed, 2-4 pages and posted via email by **October 10th** to both:

Sisse: finken@ifi.uio.no

Jennifer: jennifjb@ifi.uio.no