

FEED-BACK ON OBSERVATION 2

- Passive / Participant observation
- Ethical considerations (Crang & Cook 2007:29 + Gisle's lecture 21.10.09)
- Objectivity?
- Intervention?
- Written notes / no notes (awareness, focus, richness, embodied experience)
- Documentation of reality and what really goes on out there in the world? (technology, gaze, new questions, outside notes, bodily experiences....)

ACTION RESEARCH

(Avison et al. 1999; Baskerville & Wood-Harper (2002); Checkland and Howell 1998)

WHAT IS AR?

- * Engagement in real world situations
- * Collaboration between researchers and participants
- * Practice orientation (contribute to practical matters)
- * Focus on what people really do in an organization
- * Change and development in organizations
- * Intervention
- * Connects theory and practice
- * A learning process

THE ROLE OF THE RESEARCHER:

- * 'Helping-role'
- * Prescriptive (how reality ought and should be)

ITERATIONS IN AR:

Diagnosing a problem -> action planning -> action taking -> implementing and evaluating outcomes. Evaluation leads to a new diagnosis...

METHODS OF AR:

- * Multiple methods

AR as post-positivism – can lean against a more positivist, interpretive or critical paradigm

Discussions:

- What are the main characteristics of AR?
- When would you select AR as a methodology?
- What methods would you bring in?
- What do you see as strengths about AR?
- Differences/similarities between AR and Ethnography?
- Critiques of AR...? (is the world a space of problems?; problem – solution orientation; is change something nature-given?)