Contents

Pre	eface	vii
Ac	knowledgments	хi
Int	roduction: How I Came to Interviewing	1
1.	Why Interview?	7
	The Purpose of Interviewing	9
	Interviewing: "The" Method or "A" Method?	9
	Why Not Interview?	11
	Conclusion	13
2.	A Structure for In-Depth, Phenomenological Interviewing	14
	What Makes Interviewing Phenomenological and Why Does It Matter?	16
	Phenomenological Theme One: The Temporal and Transitory Nature of Human Experience	16
	Phenomenological Theme Two: Whose Understanding Is It? Subjective Understanding	17
	Phenomenological Theme Three:	
	Lived Experience as the Foundation of "Phenomena"	18
	Phenomenological Theme Four:	
	The Emphasis on Meaning and Meaning in Context	19
	How Do These Phenomenological Themes Matter?	20
	The Three-Interview Series	21
	Respect the Structure	24
	Alternatives to the Structure and Process	25
	Length of Interviews	26

iv	ents
----	------

	Spacing of Interviews	27
	Whose Meaning Is It? Validity and Reliability	27
	Experience the Process Yourself	32
3.	Proposing Research: From Mind to Paper to Action	33
	Research Proposals as Rites of Passage	33
	Commitment	34
	From Thought to Language	35
	What Is to Be Done?	35
	Questions to Structure the Proposal	36
	Rationale	40
	Working with the Material	41
	Piloting Your Work	43
	Conclusion	43
4.	Establishing Access to, Making Contact with,	
	and Selecting Participants	45
	The Perils of Easy Access	45
	Access Through Formal Gatekeepers	48
	Informal Gatekeepers	49
	Accessing Children	50
	Access and Hierarchy	52
	Making Contact	52
	Make a Contact Visit in Person	53
	Building the Participant Pool	54
	Some Logistical Considerations	55
	Selecting Participants	56
	Snares to Avoid in the Selection Process	59
	How Many Participants Are Enough?	60
5.	The Path to Institutional Review Boards and	
	Informed Consent	62
	The Belmont Report	62
	The Establishment of Local Institutional Review Boards	63
	The Informed Consent Document	65

Contents

	Seven Key Sections of an Informed Consent Document	66
	1. What, How Long, How, to What End, and for Whom?	67
	2. Risks, Discomforts, and Vulnerability	68
	3. The Rights of the Participant	68
	4. Possible Benefits	73
	5. Confidentiality of Records	73
	6. Dissemination	76
	7. Contact Information and Copies of the Document	77
	Special Conditions for Children	78
	Informed Consent When Using Technology to Interview	79
	Informed Consent When Interviewing Abroad	80
	The Complexities of Affirming the IRB Review Process	
	and Informed Consent	82
6.	Technique Isn't Everything, But It Is a Lot	85
	Listen More, Talk Less	85
	Follow Up on What the Participant Says	88
	Listen More, Talk Less, and Ask Real Questions	91
	Follow Up, but Don't Interrupt	92
	Two Favorite Approaches	93
	Ask Participants to Reconstruct, Not to Remember	94
	Keep Participants Focused and Ask for Concrete Details	95
	Do Not Take the Ebbs and Flows	
	of Interviewing Too Personally	95
	Limit Your Own Interaction	96
	Explore Laughter	96
	Follow Your Hunches	97
	Use an Interview Guide Cautiously	98
	Tolerate Silence	99
	Conclusion	100
7.	Interviewing as a Relationship	101
	Interviewing as an "I-Thou" Relationship	101
	Rapport	102
	Social Group Identities and the Interviewing Relationship	104

	Distinguish Among Private, Personal, and Public Experiences	113
	Avoid a Therapeutic Relationship	114
	Reciprocity	116
	Equity	116
	Interviewing Online or by Telephone, and the Relationship Between Participant and Interviewer	118
8.	Analyzing, Interpreting, and Sharing Interview Material	121
	Managing the Data	121
	Keeping Interviewing and Analysis Separate: What to Do Between Interviews	122
	Recording Interviews	123
	Transcribing Interviews	124
	Studying, Reducing, and Analyzing the Text	125
	Sharing Interview Data: Profiles and Themes	127
	Making and Analyzing Thematic Connections	133
	Interpreting the Material	136
	Computer Assisted Qualitative Data Analysis (CAQDAS)	138
	Cautions Regarding CAQDAS	140
9.	The Ethics of Doing Good Work	147
	Doing Good Work	147
	The Reciprocity Implicit in Treating Participants with Dignity	150
	Conclusion	151
App	pendix: Two Profiles	153
	Nanda: A Cambodian Survivor of the Pol Pot Era	153
	Betty: A Long-Time Day Care Provider	160
Ref	References	
Index		182
Abo	out the Author	196