



Characterization of Research/Projects

Research May be Applied or Basic

- The purpose of applied research/projects are to solve an immediate, practical problem.
- Basic Research/Projects (Pure) add to an existing body of knowledge; doesn't necessarily provide results of immediate, practical use.

Applied Research/Projects

- Raising money for an orphanage
- Finding a cure for cancer
- Fundraising and organizing a prom
- Building a house for a homeless family

Basic Research/Project

- Discovering which method of learning to read is more effective
- Learning how to train horses
- Writing a book
- Evaluating the safety of SUVs
- Become an expert on the American Revolution

Research/Projects May be Obtrusive or Non-Obtrusive

- Obtrusive - where the researcher introduces conditions that influence participants. Where the researcher manipulates the environment.
- Non-obtrusive - where researcher avoids influencing subjects in any way and tries to be as inconspicuous as possible.

Raising Money for an Orphanage

Obtrusive-if the orphans are involved

- They attend functions
- They Give you a Christmas list
- Orphans are surveyed to find their needs

Non-Obtrusive-if the orphans are not involved

- They know nothing of you or your projects
- All your data on them is from secondary sources

Finding a Cure For Cancer

Obtrusive-if you change or manipulate samples/subjects

- Give subjects different types of medicine and monitor their progress
- Expose cancer cells to different types of radiation and monitor changes

Non-Obtrusive-if you observe or review existing records or history

- Collect and analyze eating habits of a population for correlations with cancer patients
- Collect and analyze intakes of current cancer patients

Some Projects

Usually Obtrusive

- Organizing a function (prom)
- Community Service Projects

Usually Non-Obtrusive

- Self Improvement Projects (learning to play the piano)
- Production Projects (writing a book, making a movie)

Obtrusive or Non-Obtrusive?

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