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UNDERSTANDING AND APPLYING RESEARCH PARADIGMS IN EDUCATIONAL CONTEXTS

1. Introduction: What Do We Mean by Research Paradigm?

The paradigm defines a researcher's philosophical orientation and, as we shall see in the conclusion to this paper, this has significant implications for every decision made in the research process, including choice of methodology and methods. And some paradigm tells us how meaning will be constructed from the data we shall gather, based on our individual experiences. (Konsep paradigma penelitian adalah salah satu yang banyak mahasiswa penelitian tingkat tinggi, dan bahkan karir awal peneliti, menemukan sulit untuk diartikulasikan, dan menantang untuk diterapkan dalam proposal penelitian mereka).

2. What Are the Essential Elements of a Research Paradigm?

Pertinent Literature Therefore, in locating your research proposal in a particular research paradigm, the understanding is that your research will uphold, and be guided by the assumptions, beliefs, norms and values of the chosen paradigm. It is therefore important that you demonstrate that you know what each of these elements mean

- 1) *Epistemology of a Paradigm* (Epistemologi Sebuah Paradigma)
- 2) *Ontology of a Paradigm* (Ontologi Sebuah Paradigma)
- 3) *Methodology of a Paradigm* (Metodologi Suatu Paradigma)
- 4) *Axiology* (Aksiologi)

3. Which Are the Dominant Research Paradigms Applied in Educational Research?

1) Positivist Paradigm (Paradigma Positivisme)

The Positivist paradigm is usually validated by applying four criteria namely, internal validity, external validity, reliability, and objectivity (Burns, 2000).

2) The Interpretivist Paradigm/Constructivist Paradigm:

a. Characteristics of Research Located within the Interpretivist Paradigm

- *The admission that the social world cannot be understood from the standpoint of an individual.*
- *The belief that realities are multiple and socially constructed*

b. Criteria Used to Validate Research Located within the Interpretivist Paradigm Guba (1981) suggests that in research conducted within the Interpretivist paradigm the positivist criteria of internal and external validity, and reliability discussed above, should be replaced with four criteria of trustworthiness and authenticity

3) The Critical Paradigm/Transformative Paradigm

4) The Pragmatic Paradigm

4. What Are the Methodological Implications of Paradigm Choice?

1) Research Methodologies Suited to the Positivist Paradigm The research conducted under the Positivist paradigm often utilises the following methodologies.

2) Research Methodologies Suited to the Interpretivist Paradigm For research conducted under the Interpretivist paradigm, researchers have a wide choice of methodologies

3) Research Methodologies Suited for Use in the Critical Paradigm Many research projects conducted under the Critical paradigm apply the following methodologies.