

Discussion Questions for Chapters 1-4 and 17

1. Define and illustrate each of the following errors in inquiry: inaccurate observations, overgeneralization, selective observation, and illogical reasoning
2. Differentiate independent and dependent variables by definition and example, and show how they contribute to understanding causality
3. Compare quantitative and qualitative data.
4. Compare induction and deduction as ways of developing theories.
5. Show the role of theory, operationalization, and observation in the traditional model of science.
6. Describe and illustrate the ethical issues involved in the following: voluntary participation, no harm to subjects, anonymity and confidentiality, the researcher's identify, and analysis and reporting.
7. Define and illustrate the three basic purposes of research.
8. Describe the three false criteria for nomothetic causation.
9. Compare cross-sectional and longitudinal studies in terms of the advantages and weaknesses of each.
10. Identify and describe the basic elements of the research design.
11. Explain the role of reviewing the literature in research reports.