

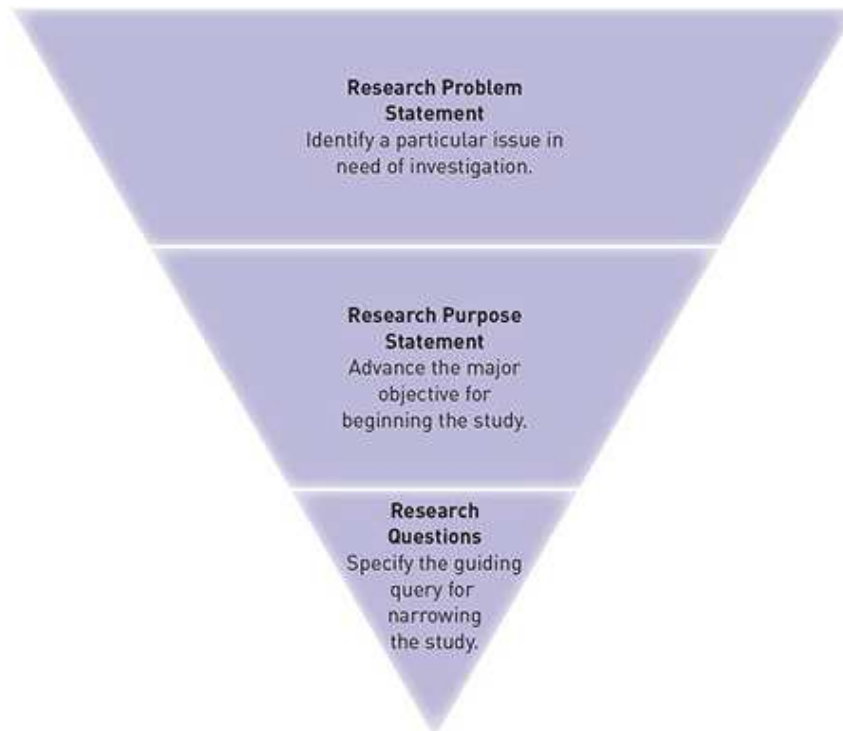
**Activity: Introducing and Focusing the Study & Collecting Data**

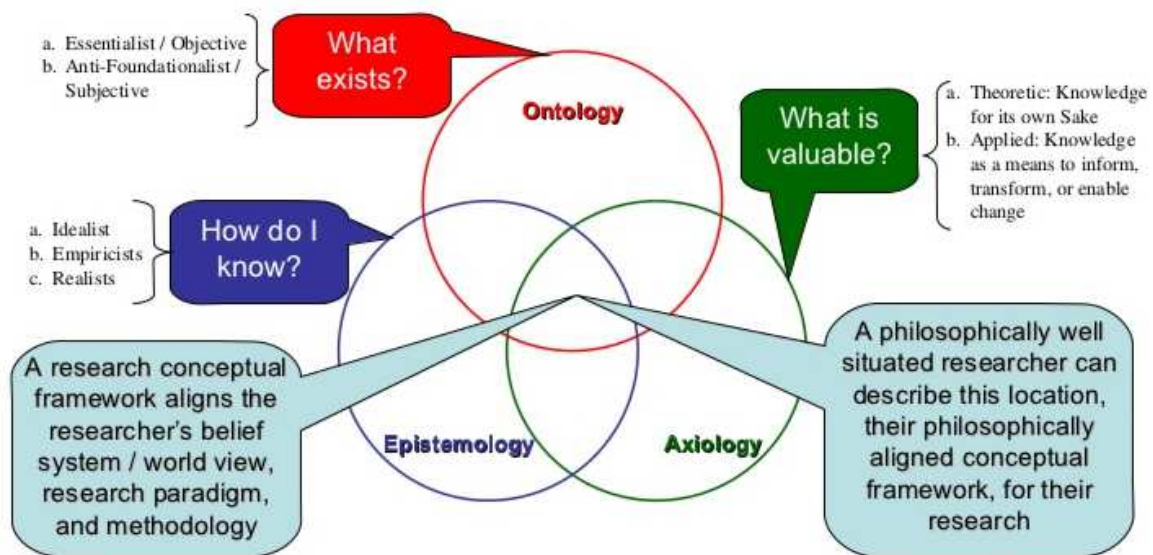
| Groups | (Very) General Topic   | # | Group Members    | Qualitative Approach |
|--------|--|---|------------------|----------------------|
| 1      | Consequences of ecosystem changes for human well-being in Niagara (county? region? US/Canada?) | 1 | Barbara Surace   | Case Study           |
|        |  | 2 | Nick Gilewski    | Ethnography          |
|        |  | 3 | Cori Thurman     | Grounded Theory      |
|        |  | 4 | Kanasha Blue     | Phenomenology        |
|        |  | 5 | Brian Bray       | Narrative            |
|        |  | 6 | Ola Adelakun     | Narrative            |
| 2      | Envisioning the future of hospitality services in Niagara (county? region? US/Canada?).        | 1 | Unique Outlaw    | Case Study           |
|        |  | 2 | Caressa Guerrero | Ethnography          |
|        |  | 3 | Kevin Barrett    | Grounded Theory      |
|        |  | 4 | Hui Cao          | Phenomenology        |
|        |  | 5 | Clement Kwakye   | Narrative            |
| 3      | Social justice and power in organizations in Niagara (county? region? US/Canada?)              | 1 | Lisa Condino     | Case Study           |
|        |  | 2 | Debbie McCleary  | Ethnography          |
|        |  | 3 | Ivan Aguilera    | Grounded Theory      |
|        |  | 4 | Amada Recio      | Phenomenology        |
|        |  | 5 | Shaun Smith      | Phenomenology        |
|        |  | 6 | Darci Novak      | Narrative            |

Name: Nick E. Gilewski

General Topic: The ongoing disparity between the Native Americans & New York State

Qualitative Approach: Ethnography





Durant-Law, G. (2005). The Philosophical Trinity, Soft Systems Methodology and Grounded Theory, Unpublished manuscript.  
[http://www.durantlaw.info/sites/durantlaw.info/files/The%20Philosophical%20Trinity%20Soft%20Systems%20Methodology%20and%](http://www.durantlaw.info/sites/durantlaw.info/files/The%20Philosophical%20Trinity%20Soft%20Systems%20Methodology%20and%20)

| Assumptions                             | Quantitative   | Qualitative   |
|---|--|---|
| Ontological<br>(Reality)                | Single reality (best solution, optimization, prototype)  | Multiple (sides of) realities (by situations of...participants/ subjects)       |
| Epistemological<br>(Researcher's roles) | Distant view and independent (no relationship between researcher and subjects such as public opinions) | Close distance view and interaction (involving, collaboration)                  |
| Axiological<br>(Value and Judgment)     | Objective, value-free/ unbiased (general, no side or no personal statement)                            | Subjective, value laden/ biased (identify position, from the perspective of...) |

| <b>Paradigm</b>                      | <b>Ontology</b><br><i>What is reality?</i>   | <b>Epistemology</b><br><i>How can I know reality?</i>   | <b>Theoretical Perspective</b><br><i>Which approach do you use to know something?</i>  | <b>Methodology</b><br><i>How do you go about finding out?</i>   | <b>Method</b><br><i>What techniques do you use to find out?</i>  |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Positivism</b>                    | There is a single reality or truth (more realist).   | Reality can be measured and hence the focus is on reliable and valid tools to obtain that.                          | Positivism<br>Post-positivism  | Experimental research<br>Survey research  | Usually quantitative, could include:<br>Sampling<br>Measurement and scaling<br>Statistical analysis<br>Questionnaire<br>Focus group<br>Interview                                     |
| <b>Constructivist / Interpretive</b> | There is no single reality or truth. Reality is created by individuals in groups (less realist).                     | Therefore, reality needs to be interpreted. It is used to discover the underlying meaning of events and activities. | Interpretivism (reality needs to be interpreted) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phenomenology</li> <li>• Symbolic interactionism</li> <li>• Hermeneutics</li> </ul> Critical Inquiry<br>Feminism | Ethnography<br>Grounded Theory<br>Phenomenological research<br>Heuristic inquiry<br>Action Research<br>Discourse Analysis<br>Feminist Standpoint research etc | Usually qualitative, could include:<br>Qualitative interview<br>Observation<br>Participant<br>Non participant<br>Case study<br>Life history<br>Narrative<br>Theme identification etc |
| <b>Pragmatism</b>                    | Reality is constantly renegotiated, debated, interpreted in light of its usefulness in new unpredictable situations. | The best method is one that solves problems. Finding out is the means, change is the underlying aim.                | Deweyan pragmatism<br><i>Research through design</i>   | Mixed methods<br>Design-based research<br>Action research   | Combination of any of the above and more, such as data mining expert review, usability testing, physical prototype   |
| <b>Subjectivism</b>                  | Reality is what we perceive to be real   | All knowledge is purely a matter of perspective.  | Postmodernism<br>Structuralism<br>Post-structuralism   | Discourse theory<br>Archaeology<br>Genealogy<br>Deconstruction etc.   | Autoethnography<br>Semiotics<br>Literary analysis<br>Pastiche<br>Intertextuality etc.  |
| <b>Critical</b>                      | Realities are socially constructed entities that are under constant internal influence.                              | Reality and knowledge is both socially constructed and influenced by power relations from within society            | Marxism<br>Queer theory<br>feminism  | critical discourse analysis, critical ethnography<br>action research<br>ideology critique   | Ideological review<br>Civil actions<br>open-ended interviews, focus groups, open-ended questionnaires, open-ended observations, and journals.  |

1. Qualitative Research Problem Statement (need of the study—this can come from personal experience, job-related problem, research agenda or existing body of literature)

Identify the ongoing disparities between New York and the Seneca Nation Indians. As far back as I can remember there has always been animosities, discrepancies, and problems between the Seneca Nation Indians and the New York State Government.

2. Purpose Statement (major objective or intent; “road map” to the study)

**TABLE 6.1 ● Words to Use in Encoding the Purpose Statement**

| Narrative   | Phenomenology  | Grounded Theory   | Ethnography  | Case Study  |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrative study</li> <li>• Stories</li> <li>• Epiphanies</li> <li>• Lived experiences</li> <li>• Chronology</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phenomenology</li> <li>• Describe</li> <li>• Experiences</li> <li>• Meaning</li> <li>• Essence</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grounded theory</li> <li>• Generate</li> <li>• Develop</li> <li>• Propositions</li> <li>• Process</li> <li>• Substantive theory</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethnography</li> <li>• Culture-sharing group</li> <li>• Cultural behavior and language</li> <li>• Cultural portrait</li> <li>• Cultural themes</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case study</li> <li>• Bounded</li> <li>• Single or collective case</li> <li>• Event, process, program, individual</li> </ul> |

Using a qualitative ethnographic research approach I plan to identify specific discrepancies in order to rebuild the relationship between New York State and the Seneca Nation Indians. As a researcher I will temporarily reside on the Seneca Nation Reservation providing me an epistemological perspective.

3. Research questions (open-ended, evolving and nondirectional) (exploratory / explanatory / descriptive / emancipatory—social action)

Start with: What.....? How....?

- a. Overarching research question

As a resident of the Seneca Nation Reservation it will allow me to subjectively submerge myself into the community. Actively being involved in the community will allow me to identify what specific disparities exist and how I can help to rebuild them.

b. Subquestions (related to topics, issues, procedures)

What originally caused the disparities between New York State and the Seneca Nation Indians? Have the problems grown between New York State and the Seneca Nation Indians or are the problems declining? Have the Seneca casinos fortified or or harmed the relationship between New York State and the Seneca Nation Indians? Are cigarettes and gas a stigma or are there real underlying issues with respect to taxes not being paid to New York State? What can be done to build the relationship between New York State and the Seneca Nation Indians? Lastly, can this research can help improve relationships between New York State and the Seneca Nation Indians?

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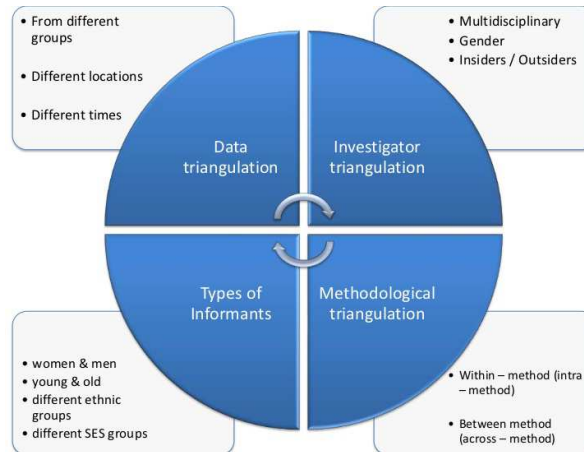
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4. Data Collection



a. Identifying site and/or individual(s)

The data collection will be targeted towards both men and women, young and old.

An emphasis will focused on contacting business owners, the casino, and politicians.

- b. Determining how to gain access and make rapport (e.g., IRB approval, gatekeeper, reciprocity, etc.)

First, I will submit my qualitative research topic to the IRB for approval.

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Currently, there is an open apartment above Smoking Joes, where I intend on living

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for 6 months. Living above Smoking Joes will allow me to converse with Joe himself.

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Joe will be a conduit to answering the majority of my questions. If Joe doesn't

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have the answers I am confident that I can become acquaintances within his group

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of people, which will provide me with all the answers.

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c. Sampling (purposeful vs. probability) (sampling actors, settings, events, artifacts)

**TABLE 7.3 ● Typology of Sampling Strategies in Qualitative Inquiry**

| Type of Sampling                   | Purpose   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Maximum variation                  | Documents diverse variations of individuals or sites based on specific characteristics            |
| Homogeneous                        | Focuses, reduces, simplifies, and facilitates group interviewing                                  |
| Critical case                      | Permits logical generalization and maximum application of information to other cases              |
| Theory based                       | Elaborates on and examines a construct of a theory or the entire theory                           |
| Confirming and disconfirming cases | Elaborates on initial analysis, seeks exceptions, and looks for variation                         |
| Snowball or chain                  | Identifies cases of interest from people who know people who know what cases are information-rich |
| Extreme or deviant case            | Learns from highly unusual manifestations of the phenomenon of interest                           |
| Typical case                       | Highlights what is normal or average  |
| Intensity                          | Seeks information-rich cases that manifest the phenomenon intensely but not extremely             |
| Politically important              | Attracts desired attention or avoids attracting undesired attention                               |
| Random purposeful                  | Adds credibility to sample when potential purposeful sample is too large                          |
| Stratified purposeful              | Illustrates subgroups and facilitates comparisons   |
| Criterion                          | Seeks cases that meet some criterion; useful for quality assurance                                |
| Opportunistic                      | Follows new leads; taking advantage of the unexpected   |
| Combination or mixed               | Meets multiple interests and needs through triangulation, flexibility                             |
| Convenience                        | Saves time, money, and effort, but at the expense of information and credibility                  |

Source: Miles and Huberman (1994, p. 29). Reprinted with permission from SAGE.

The typology of sampling strategies for my qualitative inquiry will be done based on stratified purposeful interviews. If needed, political interviews will be done in order to leverage the outcome to build the relationship between New York State and the Seneca Nation Indians.

d. Collecting data (interviews, observations, documents, audiovisual materials, digital archives, Internet, tests, surveys, etc.) (synchronous vs asynchronous)

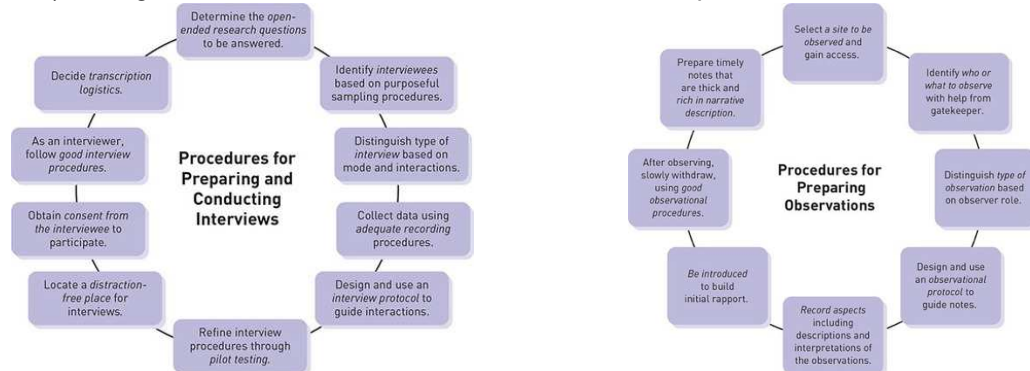
**TABLE 7.1** ● Data Collection Activities by Five Approaches

| Data Collection Activity   | Narrative   | Phenomenology   | Grounded Theory  | Ethnography   | Case Study   |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| What is traditionally studied (sites or individuals)?                                | Single individual, accessible, and distinctive by their stories of experience   | Multiple individuals who have experienced the phenomenon                      | Multiple individuals who have responded to an action or participated in a process about a central phenomenon | Members of a culture-sharing group or individuals representative of the group                                       | A bounded system, such as a process, an activity, an event, a program, or multiple individuals                   |
| What are typical access and rapport procedures (access and rapport)?                 | Gaining permission from individuals, obtaining access to information in archives  | Finding people who have experienced the phenomenon                            | Locating a homogeneous sample  | Gaining access through the gatekeeper, gaining the confidence of informants   | Gaining access through the gatekeeper, gaining the confidence of participants                                    |
| How does one select a site or individuals to study (purposeful sampling strategies)? | Several strategies, depending on the person (e.g., convenient, politically important, typical, a critical case)                                     | Finding individuals who have experienced the phenomenon, a "criterion" sample | Finding a homogeneous sample, a "theory-based" sample, a "theoretical" sample                                | Finding a cultural group to which one is a "stranger," a "representative" sample                                    | Finding a "case" or "cases," an "atypical" case, or a "maximum variation" or "extreme" case                      |
| What type of information typically is collected (forms of data)?                     | Documents and archival material, open-ended interviews, subject journaling, participant observation, casual chatting; typically a single individual | Interviews with a range of people (e.g., 5 to 25)                             | Primarily interviews with 20 to 30 people to achieve detail in the theory                                    | Participant observations, interviews, artifacts, and documents of a single culture-sharing group                    | Extensive forms, such as documents and records, interviews, observation, and physical artifacts for 1 to 4 cases |
| How is information recorded (recording information)?                                 | Notes, interview protocol   | Interviews, often multiple interviews with the same individuals               | Interview protocol, field notes, memoing   | Field notes, interview and observational protocols  | Field notes, interview and observational protocols   |
| What are common data collection issues (field issues)?                               | Access to materials, authenticity of account and materials  | Bracketing one's experiences, logistics of interviewing                       | Interviewing issues (e.g., logistics, openness)  | Field issues (e.g., reflexivity, reactivity, reciprocity, "going native," divulging private information, deception) | Interviewing and observing issues  |
| How is information typically stored (storing data)?                                  | File folders, digital files   | Transcriptions, digital files   | Transcriptions, digital files  | Field notes, transcriptions, digital files  | Field notes, transcriptions, digital files   |

If give the opportunity, the preference on conducting interviews would be done via audio video. However, most people may be reluctant to conduct an interview with a video camera recording; therefore, the next alternative would be an audio recording of the interview. In addition to interviews, several observations will made and documented supporting homogenous perspectives and claims. All document, videos and audio will be saved and accesed on a Google drive.



- e. Recording data (e.g., protocols, fieldnotes, mapping, photographing, sound recording, etc.) Distinguish between observed facts and researcher opinion/reflections.



All observations, interviews and data collected will be accurate and verified. All

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interviews will be conducted in a controlled environment involving the interviewer,

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and interviewee. The interview will involve no more than 3 people, because in order

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to get members of the community to divulge information they are more likely to do so

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in a small group and or alone. The interview questions will be open ended such that

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it will require the interviewee to take an active part in the question, thereby intuitively

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and unknowingly come up with a solution. The interview questions will be rich with

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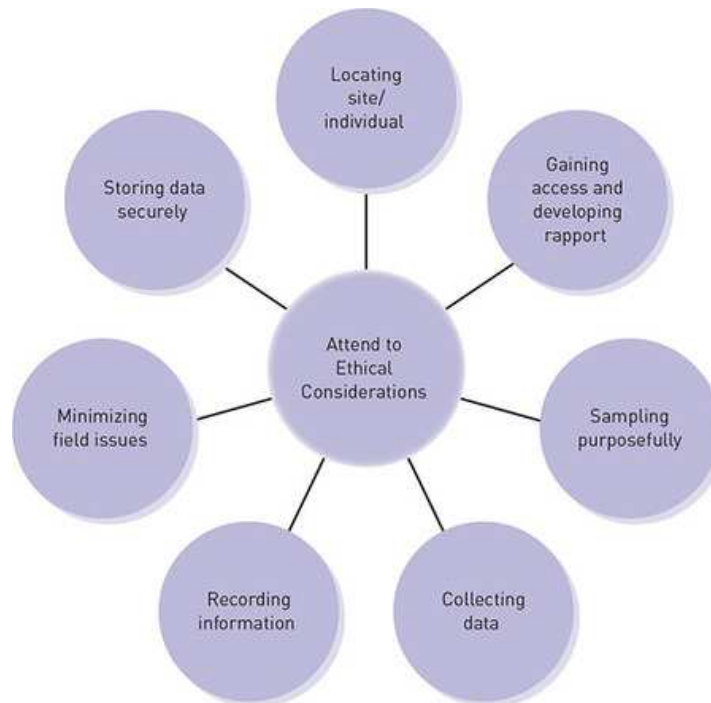
data, statistics and facts in hopes to provide a persuasive constructive answer.

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- f. Field Issues (e.g., building trust and credibility for purposes of entry and access; potential ethical issues; making sure that researcher does not force, interrupt, suppress or oppress subjects)



**TABLE 7.2 • Examples of Ethical Issues and Details to Describe by Data Collection Activity**

| Data Collection Activity | Examples of Ethics Issues to Anticipate and Address  | Examples of Details to Describe                       |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| The site or individual   | Situations where site selection might raise power issues with researchers (e.g., research within own work context). Consider alternatives free of power concerns             | Site or individual selection rationale and procedures |
| Access and rapport       | Sites requiring local approvals for access. Identify additional review processes and gatekeeper for help   | Site access and permission rationale and procedures   |
|                          | Participants informed of study procedures and their rights. Seek consent from appropriate individuals for participation  | Individual consent procedures                         |
|                          | Become familiar with research context and population. Find out about cultural, religious, gender, and other differences that need to be respected                            | Rapport building rationale and procedures             |
| Sampling strategy        | Participants aware of why they are invited to participate with reference to the study purpose  | Sample selection rationale and recruitment procedures |
| Forms of data            | Situations where data collection might disrupt the site and be appropriate for the participants  | Data source selection rationale                       |
|                          | Consider how the researcher goes about eliciting information with participants, provides appropriate rewards for participating, and attends to opportunities for reciprocity | Data procedures                                       |
| Recording procedures     | Situations when recording might be intrusive and participants informed of measures taken for maintaining confidentiality   | Data recording rationale and procedures               |
| Field issues             | Consider various issues as entry and access, appropriateness of data forms, and procedures for information collection  | Varies  |
| Data storage             | Store data and materials in secure locations and be attentive to intended use of data  | Data management procedures and use                    |

All reserach will be done ethically and integrity based. All data collected will be factual and will not be altered in order to change the outcome. All participants will have the opportunity to quit the interview at anytime; however, it is not encouraged. The interviewer, myself, will use tact and consideration while conducting the interview keeping within confortable bounds for the interviewee. Pushing the interviewee to answer questions that are uncomfortable with may end the interview immediately causing the interviewer to go home empty handed. Random surveys will be conducted for casino goers, and cigarattee/gas purchaser. To incentivise the community members a gift card will be given to each person for participating.

g. Storing data

All data will be uploaded and stored on a Google drive, which is analogous to the cloud.

All documents will be done with Microsoft Word and speadsheets done with Excel.

Digital and audio recording will be raw, but may have some minor edits to improve the quality.