

Documents

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Using skype as a qualitative interview medium within the context of Saudi Arabia

(2018) *Qualitative Report*, 23 (10), art. no. 1, pp. 2253-2260. Cited 1 time.

Abstract

This research note reports the results of using Skype as a medium to conduct semi-structured interviews in qualitative studies within the context of Saudi Arabia. Skype audio-only interviews were used to explore the concept of privacy from the perspective of female users in the context of the spatial design of contemporary Saudi houses. The use of Skype audio-only, although accidental, turned out to be fortuitous. The researcher's study design called for all face-to-face interviews, but due to the location of the researcher and participants and study time frame, some of the interviews were conducted face-to-face and the others were audio only Skype calls. The researcher went through the experience of being on both sides of the audio-only-Skype-call, as the interviewer and as the participant. Then there was an opportunity for the researcher to experience being an interview participant in a research that encountered some similarities to the one she had conducted: medium and subject sensitivity. After going through different approaches in conducting interviews, the paper acknowledges the benefits provided when using Skype-audio-only-calls in qualitative research. © 2018, Nova Southeastern University. All rights reserved.

2-s2.0-85055256377

Document Type: Article

Publication Stage: Final

Source: Scopus