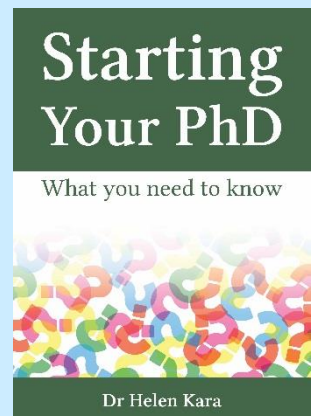
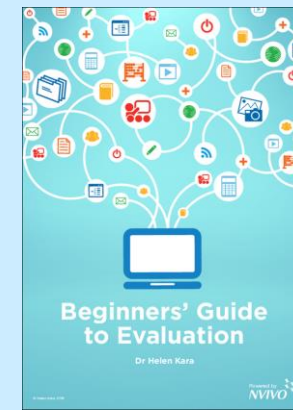
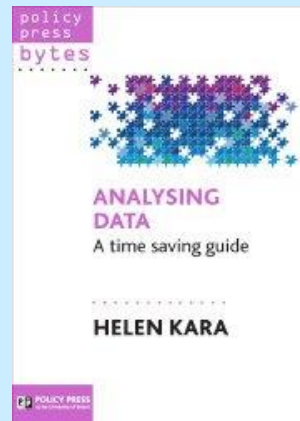
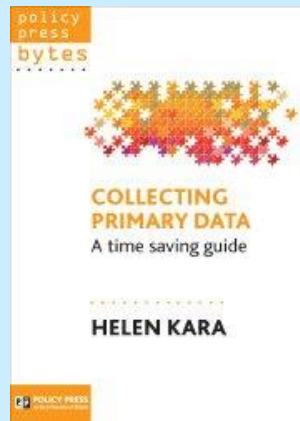
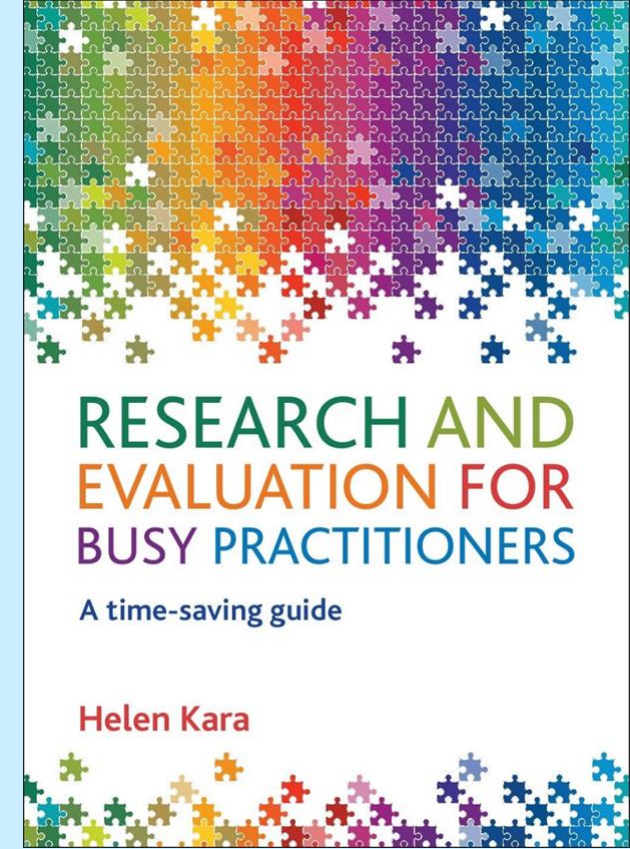


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# Creative Research Methods

- Arts-based research
- Research using technology
- Mixed methods research
- Transformative research frameworks

# Arts-based research



*Poetry*



# Arts-based research

- Research is arts-based; arts are research-based
- Creative arts practice can be a form of research in itself, e.g. poetic inquiry
- Particularly useful for gathering data and disseminating findings
- Also applicable in data analysis, writing, and presentation

# Arts-based research

- Particularly useful, even ethical, when working with:
  - Children
  - People who speak different languages
  - People with communication difficulties
  - Mixed ability groups
  - Sensitive or emotive topics

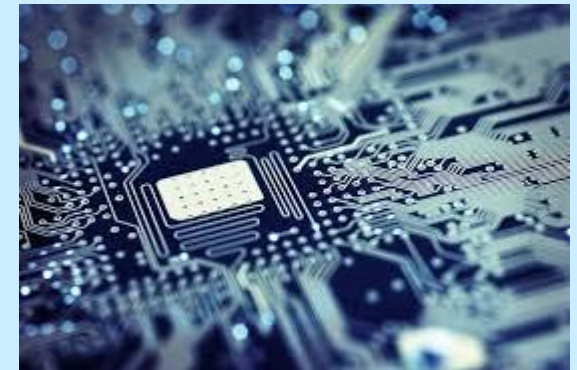
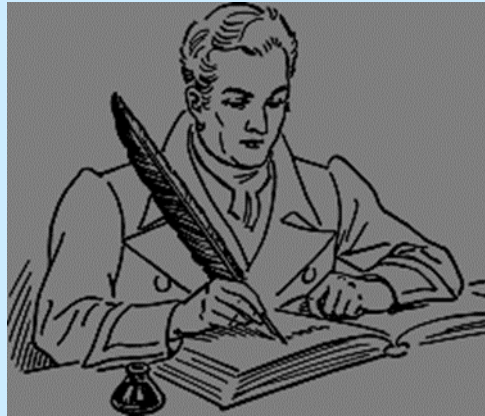
# Arts-based research

- Major debate: how much artistic skill do you need to be an arts-based researcher?
  - As much artistic skill as research skill?
  - No artistic skill?
  - It depends?
  - Is this an ethics-related debate?

# Arts-based research

How might you use arts techniques in your own research?

# Research using technology





# Research using technology

- Most commonly used for data gathering, transcription, analysis, communication
- Also helpful for planning, contextualisation, presentation, dissemination, collaboration
- Helps, fails, enables, disappoints, surprises
- Technology changes research practice: key ethical point

# Research using technology

- Digital divide – bigger than you think; problems of exclusion
- Online research can jeopardise people's safety – failure to maintain privacy, anonymity, confidentiality can lead to hacking or stalking
- Don't let technology seduce you into acting unethically – e.g. data analysis, presentation

# Research using technology

- Audio or video podcasts – consent
- Online surveys – reduce burden on participants
- Video – more accurate observational analysis
- Bridges distance
- Crosses boundaries
- Great teaching aid
- Open data, secondary data – quant and qual

# Research using technology

How might you use technology in your own research?

# Mixed-methods research



# Mixed-methods research

- Traditionally quant + qual
- Now also quant + quant or qual + qual
- Traditionally mixed methods of data gathering
- Now also mix methods of e.g. contextualising, analysing data, writing, presenting, disseminating
- Often useful to investigate questions too complex for a single method to address

# Mixed-methods research

- More resource-intensive
- Potential for conflicts between paradigms, particularly when disciplines collide
- Not always easy to integrate findings
- Plan carefully, don't make it up as you go along
- The approach is maturing so make use of appropriate books and journals

# Mixed-methods research

- Tashakkori A & Teddlie C (2013) *SAGE Handbook of Mixed Methods in Social & Behavioral Research*
- Creswell J & Plano Clark V (2011) *Designing and Conducting Mixed Methods Research*
- Journal of Mixed Methods Research
- International Journal of Multiple Research Approaches



# Mixed-methods research

How might you mix methods in your own research?

# Transformative research frameworks



# Transformative Research Frameworks

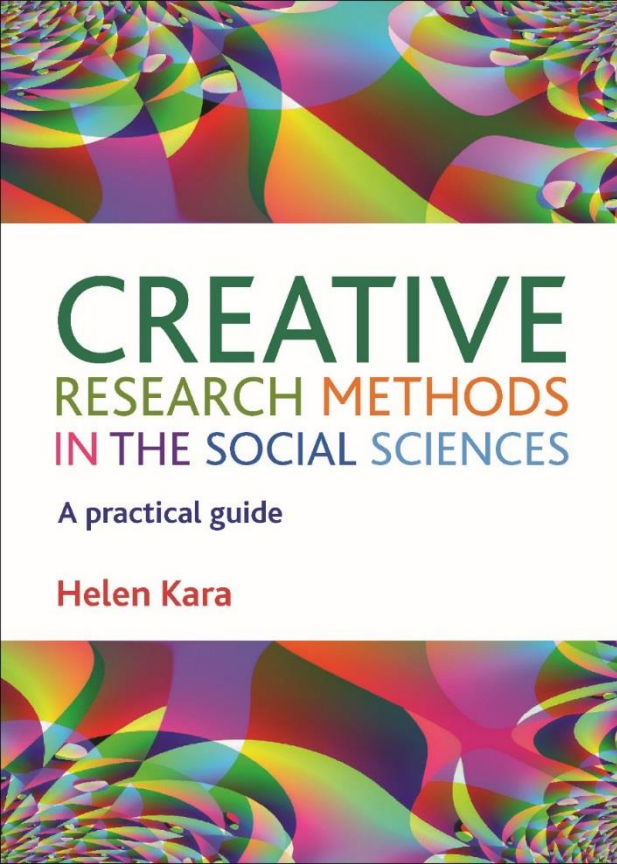
- Feminist research
- Decolonising methodologies
- Activist or emancipatory research
- Participatory methodologies

# Transformative Research Frameworks

- Creativity is morally neutral BUT there is a strong relationship between thinking creatively and making ethical decisions (Mumford et al 2010)
- Ethical stance: 'do no harm', or social justice?
- Is ethics just for RECs/IRBs, or is it for the whole research process?
- TRFs designed to be more ethical by addressing and reducing power imbalances

# Transformative Research Frameworks

- Need high levels of resource – can't be tokenistic
- People involved are likely to have different kinds of knowledge; communication is key
- Won't affect power imbalances beyond the scope of the research
- Can create their own ethical difficulties, e.g. in longitudinal research, writing, aftercare, etc



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