

## **Chapter 15: Evaluating Qualitative Research**

Williams, E.N. and Morrow, S.L. (2009) Achieving trustworthiness in qualitative research: a pan-paradigmatic perspective, *Psychotherapy Research*, 19(4/5): 576-82.

This article is a helpful discussion of practical ways of evaluating qualitative research.

Tracy, S. J. (2010) Qualitative Quality: eight “Big-Tent” Criteria for Excellent Qualitative Research, *Qualitative Inquiry*, 16(10): 837-851

This author attempts to create a discussion and dialogue in relation to markers that can be used to assess quality in qualitative research. Tracy presents and discusses eight potential markers of quality (worthy topics, rich rigor, sincerity, credibility, resonance, significant contribution, ethics, and meaningful coherence). This article works as a useful discussion piece in terms of how qualitative research should be assessed, and the necessary flexibility needed in generating and applying ‘markers of quality’ in qualitative research.

The above article can be compared to:

Carter, S. M. & Little, M. (2007) Justifying Knowledge, Justifying Method, Taking Action: Epistemologies, Methodologies and Methods in Qualitative Research, *Qualitative Health Research*, 17(10): 1316-1328

Which as well as setting out a framework for qualitative research in terms of thinking about epistemology, methodology and methods, it also presents a framework for evaluating quality. The authors suggest ways in which ‘innovation and diversity’ in qualitative research can be fostered, and again suggest methods for evaluating qualitative research than moves beyond standardised frameworks and ‘checklists’ in evaluation. </p>