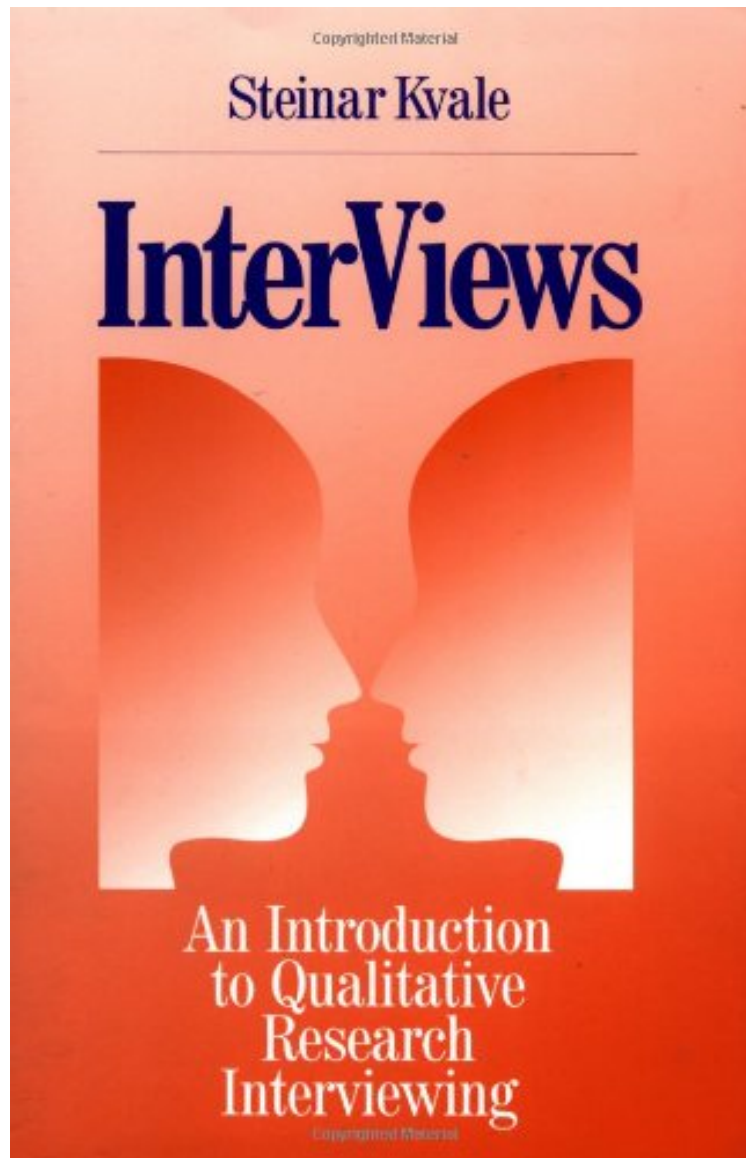


# InterViews: An Introduction to Qualitative Research Interviewing

*Steinar Kvale*

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**Steinar Kvale : InterViews: An Introduction to Qualitative Research Interviewing** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised InterViews: An Introduction to Qualitative Research Interviewing:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Add inspiration to your research methodsBy Creutzfeldt JohanAfter having read through literature for qualitative and quantitative research methods and some books in philosophy of

science, I must admit that Kvale has something that most others lack - a gift to write. Not only is he himself knowledgeable, but he demonstrates a sense of humour and a pedagogic approach with several fine examples. With a good methodological background he expands the field of qualitative research for the reader. Clearly he's not all qualitative but has a good way to argue for both qualitative and quantitative research approaches. In the book many important and useful references are found which might help the reader to get a deeper perspective on the issues, in particular in the theoretical backgrounds. Further, it is also useful to get other perspectives in this field, with many branches in different research traditions. A shortcoming of the book is its age - in Scandinavia there are already a newer version, and an updated version of this book could qualify on most novel and moderately experienced qualitative researchers book shelf. Actually even the more experienced ones will probably enjoy the book for its clear perspectives, bright wit and pedagogic superiority.<sup>2</sup> of 3 people found the following review helpful. Interesting Slant on Qualitative Research By Bomb Man58 Professor Steinar Kvale has written a very interesting and thought provoking book on the use of interviews in qualitative research work. Professor Kvale discusses getting the researcher to place themselves in the subjects domain when formulating interviews. From the viewpoint of research, I feel this aspect is important for the researcher in order to frame their questions appropriately, to gain the most from their research. The procedure for getting some people to an interview is a hard one as they lead extremely busy lives and need to be drawn to the cause of the researcher. This fact requires the researcher to spend some time structuring their questions and designing the interview. I am currently engaged in some research work and can attest to the need to make the person targeted for interviews interested in the project - otherwise you will have a hard time gaining their interest and cooperation for an interview. I found Professor Kvale's book informative and interesting; with a great deal of useful information for gaining insight into planning interviews for research in qualitative methodology. However, the book might be difficult for some; as I found it requires some syntopical reading in order to gain a full grasp of the theoretical aspects of the craft. In this respect, I find it better not to attempt to read such a book like a novel - from cover to cover; but rather to read from various sections and gain an interesting discussion thread of the book and follow it that way. Professor Kvale's book has a great deal of interesting information for the qualitative researcher seeking to gain information for their project, through the use of interviews. I found the book very handy with a great deal of information on interviews and their use in researching. A good list of references is also included. Well done, Professor Kvale!<sup>3</sup> of 4 people found the following review helpful. Heavy into the philosophy By Sunstar66 Never performed qualitative research prior. Thought this book would be a helpful introduction. Very heavy on the theoretical side, as in making a solid case for why qualitative research is valid. I already accept its validity, wanted to know how to assess it and make it go smoothly. As I am not a serious scientist, this book had way more information than I needed. Still and all it is very informative and I would certainly recommend it if you are planning to do any work on the qualitative side and maybe need to convince your boss that it is a good idea.

Interviewing is an essential tool in qualitative research and this introduction to interviewing outlines both the theoretical underpinnings and the practical aspects of the process. After examining the role of the interview in the research process, Steinar Kvale considers some of the key philosophical issues relating to interviewing: the interview as conversation, hermeneutics, phenomenology, concerns about ethics as well as validity, and postmodernism. Having established this framework, the author then analyzes the seven stages of the interview process - from designing a study to writing it up.

About the Author Steinar Kvale (1938-2008) was professor of educational psychology and director of the Centre of Qualitative Research at the University of Aarhus, and adjunct faculty at Saybrook Institute, San Francisco. He was born in Norway and graduated from the University of Oslo. He continued his studies at the University of Heidelberg with an Alexander von Humboldt scholarship and was a visiting professor at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, and West Georgia University, Carrollton, and the University of Bergen. His long-term concern was with the implications of such continental philosophies as phenomenology, hermeneutics, and dialectics for psychology and education.