

Methods Analysis**Due: Tuesday, May 9th**

Based on the premise that discussions of methodology have more immediate relevance if you are simultaneously engaged in trying various methods out, this assignment will give you practice in a method of your choosing. This exercise is designed to get you thinking in an immediate way about research by trying out a method you may be more or less experienced with and then analyzing how it should be used in the process research (e.g. methodology) in relation to your epistemological stance. Your chosen method (e.g. interview, survey, focus group, participant observation, photo voice, archival research, discourse analysis, etc.) can be related to your current or future thesis/dissertation research, but it doesn't have to be. In selecting, putting into practice, and interpreting the knowledge produced by a particular research method, you should consider the ethical implications of research; the relationship between initial research questions and the process of research; the relationship between the spoken and written word; and the politics of interpretation and representation.

In a three-to-five page paper, explain and reflect on your approach to the method you tried out, your practice applying this research method, and how this exercise fits with what you are learning about feminist methodology in class. If applicable, you can attach relevant documentation such as a transcription of an interview (you may choose to transcribe only part of the interview while reflecting on the implications of partial transcription), fieldnotes, media clips, or a bibliography of discipline-specific uses or discussions of your selected method.