

Review of: "Using concepts related to research design while writing thesis and dissertation at universities: questioning the status quo"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear author: congratulations on the initiative. The topic is interesting and important.

Since I am writing after a number of other colleagues, who have said almost everything, I choose to focus on a few proposals.

I notice that you write "Master and doctoral students' supervisors at different universities and departments force their students to use headings for a research design chapter without clearly conceptualizing different concepts and their relationships". You should support this claim since it justifies the very research you present. Does it derive from any previous research, or is it your own perception?

If there is no previous research, perhaps it would be appropriate to start by investigating precisely the students' perceptions.

You argue, following the research, that " ...the concepts must be used consistently worldwide by understanding their differences and similarities". However, this suggests a tendency to standardize research methodology when contexts and realities are very different (ontology precedes epistemology) and this has led several authors (e.g. Feyerabend, Longino, Harding) to propose more open and localized paths of research (epistemology precedes methodology). I suggest you start by understanding what goes on in a university or Ph.D. course - one must be careful in assuming that the Anglo-Saxon bibliography should translate global practices.

I consider, following these notes, but also because I identify myself with the proposals of the reviewers who made a previous assessment to mine, that the research that led to the article and the article itself, still needs a lot of work before it can lead to a publication.