

# Concept Article II: A Case Study: A Research Approach

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## Introduction

Case study method is an ideal and comprehensive research methodology when in depth investigations about a client or a program is needed

The main feature of this method is that it brings to us an understanding of a complex issue or an object and can extend experience or add strength to what is already known. Case studies emphasizes detailed contextual analysis of a limited number of events, issues, problems or conditions and their relationships. Case study method has been used in variety of disciplines, particularly in sociological and management studies as it being a qualitative research method, examines real life situations and provides the basis for the application of ideas.

## Definition

By researcher Robert K. Yin "Case study research methodology is an empirical inquiry that investigate a contemporary phenomenon with in its real life context: when the boundaries between phenomenon and context are not clearly evident; and in which multiple sources of evidence are used

## Application Of Case Study Model ( Yin 1994 )

To explain complex causal links in real life interventions

To describe the real life context in which the intervention has occurred

To describe the intervention itself

To explore those situations in which intervention being evaluated has no clear set of outcome

## Types

*Exploratory*- usually done as prelude to social research

*Explanatory*- case studies may be used for doing casual investigations

*Descriptive*- to develop descriptive theories before the actual research project is started

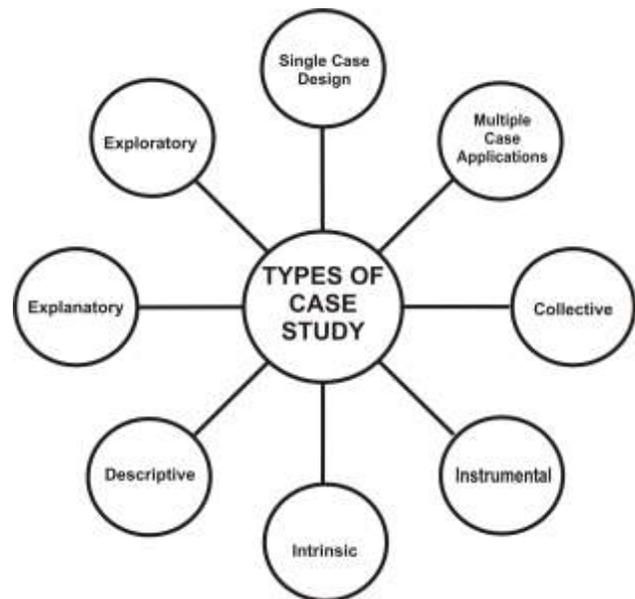
*Intrinsic*- when the researcher has interest in the case

*Instrumental*- when the case is understood more than what is obvious to the observer

*Collective*- when a group of cases is studied

*Multiple case applications*- follows a replication logic

*Single case design* -to represent a unique case or confirm a theory



## Techniques/steps of organizing and conducting research

### Steps:

#### 1.Design/ development of case study Protocol Components of the Protocol:

a) An overview of the case study project this will include project objectives, case study issues, and the presentation of the topic under study. The protocol design will keep the investigator's focus on the main tasks and goals, while the process of development will brings out the problems that would only be faced during the actual investigation. The overview is a useful way to communicate with the investigator. The researcher should develop a draft of the protocol