EMPIRICAL OBSERVATION

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EMPIRICAL AND OBSERVATION-MEANING

- Empirical- Based on experience or experiments rather than ideas or theories.
- Observation (Avlokan or prekshan)- means the act of watching somebody or something for a period of time.
- A comment especially based on you have seen , heard or read.(general meaning).
- Definition- Observation is a systematic and deliberate study through eyes of spontaneous occurrence at the time they occur. The purpose of the observation is to perceive the nature and extent of significant interrelated elements within complex social phenomenon, cultural patterns or human conduct.—P.V.Young

EMPIRICAL OBSERVATION

- Non- experimental design.
- More use of eyes than ear and voice.
- Systematic data collection approach.
- Researchers use all their senses to examine people in natural setting or naturally occurring situations.
- Science begins with observation and must ultimately return to observation for its final validation.. Goode and Hatt

CHARACTERISTICS

- Use of senses.
- Primary data collection.
- Minuteness.
- Empirical studies.
- Scientific precision.
- Direct method.
- Impartiality .
- Study of social reality.
- Selective in nature .

MERITS OF OBSERVATION

- Simplicity.
- Reliability.
- Objectivity.
- Verifiability.
- Helpful in hypothesis.
- Universal method.

LIMITATIONS

- Unsuitable for specific phenomenon (anger, happiness, affection, loyalty).
- Limited sphere.
- Possibilities of biasness.
- Inadequacies of sense organs.
- Deep knowledge of human behaviour is must.
- Time and resource consuming.
- Wrong interpretations.
- Trained staff required.
- Events are interlinked and complex.

TYPES OF OBSERVATION

Individual observation.

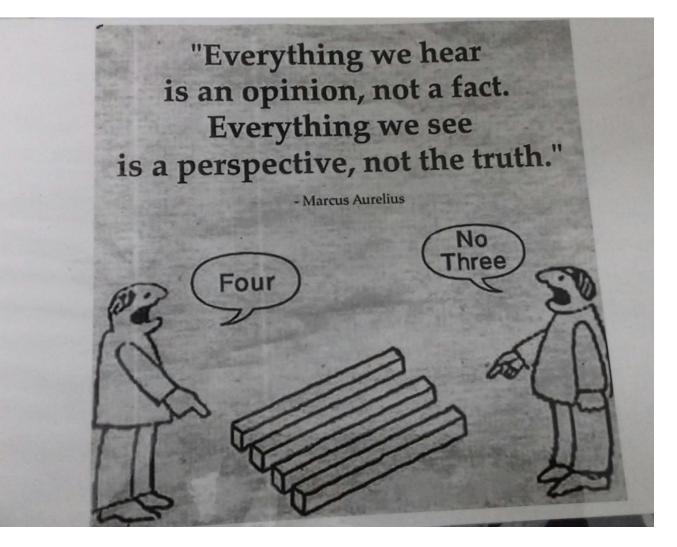
- > Un-Controlled (simple or natural observation), covert observation.
- Controlled (overt observation) openly.
- Full participant observation
- Quasi-participant observation
- Non-participant observation.

- Mass observation (many experts at a time ,combination of controlled and noncontrolled).
- Other types-
- Close observation
- Far observation
- Survey type
- Long -time
- Short -time
- Focussed
- Scattered

QUALITIES REQUIRED

- Deep knowledge of society and geography etc.
- Interest in social phenomenon
- Pertinence
- Technology in hand
- Neutral behaviour
- Sharp Memory
- Conceptual Clarity

LISTEN AND SEE CAREFULLY



OBSERVE AND LEARN FROM LIFE

