



Conducting Qualitative Research in an International Context

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Introduction

- Background
- Research interest



Purpose

- This presentation will focus on:
 - Practical and ethical considerations,
 - Challenges and rewards,
 - Lessons learned, and
 - Examples from our international fieldwork.



International Context



Ghana



Photo acknowledgment: S Richter, K Jarvis, K. Amodu, S. Hirani, L. Chubb

International Research

- ...[the] idea of boundaries may provide a false sense of security and detachment from issues occurring in other parts of the world.

~Edmonson, McCarthy,
Trent-Adams, McCain,
Marshall, 2017



Importance of Qualitative International Research



Role of Nursing and Health Professionals



Physical Considerations

- Environment
 - Weather
 - Traffic and roads
- Safety
- Language
- Resources
 - Translator and/or interpreters
 - Technology



Examples

“The lizard does not eat pepper for the frog to sweat”

“One finger can not lift a thing”

“A tortoise who has no clan, has already made his casket”



Ethical Considerations

- Ethical issues
 - Consent
 - Gatekeeping
 - Privacy and confidentiality
 - Incentive for participants
 - Receiving gifts from participants



Leaving the Field



Challenges and Rewards

- Learning a new culture
- Appropriately capturing the words and ideas of participants
- Being an outsiders



Lessons Learned and Examples

- Philosophical considerations
- Culturally humility
- Relational inquiry
- Collaboration & partnership



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Resources:

Hall, E.T. (1990). The Silent language. Anchor books.
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