

## Research Skills 3 Practical 2

### The Psychology of Friendship: An interpretative phenomenological approach

#### Reading Suggestions

The following text is a central resource for this practical:

**Forrester, M. (Ed) (2010). *Doing Qualitative Research in Psychology: A practical Guide*. London: Sage.**

Below are three further sets of references. The **first** lists papers on qualitative methods in psychology in general. The **second** list is related to the method of analysis (IPA: Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis) and some papers published using this method on a variety of topics. You should use these papers to structure your analysis and to get a feel for how to write up qualitative work. The **third** list relates to studies / papers on the topic of friendship. The list includes both quantitative and qualitative studies that relate to a variety of features on friendship such as its role in wellbeing, reciprocity, mutual support, closeness, emotional investment etc. which are closely linked to the content of the interviews you will be analyzing.

#### 1. Qualitative Psychology (general)

Howitt D. (2016). *Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods in Psychology*. Harlow, UK: Pearson.  
<http://www.pearsoned.co.uk/HigherEducation/Titlesby/HowittCramer/#>

Lyons, E. & Coyle, A. (2007). *Analysing Qualitative Data in Psychology*. London: Sage. (Chapter 2)

Madill, A. (2011). Interaction in the semi-structured interview: A comparative analysis of the use of and response to indirect complaints. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 8, 333–353.  
[https://www.academia.edu/2325145/Madill\\_A.\\_2011\\_Interaction\\_in\\_the\\_semistructured\\_interview\\_A\\_comparative\\_analysis\\_of\\_the\\_use\\_of\\_and\\_response\\_to\\_indirect\\_complaints](https://www.academia.edu/2325145/Madill_A._2011_Interaction_in_the_semistructured_interview_A_comparative_analysis_of_the_use_of_and_response_to_indirect_complaints)

Madill, A. (2012). Interviewing and interview techniques (Part V: Chapter 2). In Cooper, H., Camic, P.M., Long, D.L., Panter, A.T., Rindskopf, & D., Sher, K.J. (Eds.), *American Psychological Association Handbook of Research Methods in Psychology* (Vols 1-3). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Smith, J. (2003). *Qualitative Psychology*. London: Sage. (Chapter 11)

Willig, C. (2013). *Introducing qualitative research in psychology*. Maidenhead, England: McGraw Hill Education/Open University Press.

#### 2. Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis

This list of papers is related to the method of analysis (IPA: Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis) and some papers published using this method on a variety of topics. Look at one or two of these to get a feel for how to write up qualitative work.

Dickson, A., Knussen, C. & Flowers, P. (2007). Stigma and the delegitimation experience: An interpretative phenomenological analysis of pole living with chronic fatigue syndrome. *Psychology & Health*, 22, 851-867.

Eatough, V. & Smith, J. (2006). 'I was like a wild wild person': Understanding feelings of anger using IPA. *British Journal of Psychology*, 97, 483-498.

Howes, H., Benton, D. & Edwards, S. (2005). Women's experience of brain injury: An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis. *Psychology & Health*, 20, 129-142.

- Larkin, M., Watts, S & Clifton, E. (2006). Giving voice and making sense in interpretative phenomenological analysis. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 3 (2), 102-120.
- Lavie, M. & Willig, C. (2005). "I don't feel like melting butter": An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis of the experience of 'ilnorgasmia'. *Psychology & Health*, 20, 115-128.
- Smith, J., Flowers, P. & Larkin, M. (2009). *Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis: Theory, Method and Research*. London: Sage.
- Smith, J.A. & Osborn, M. (2007). Pain as an assault on the self. *Psychology & Health*, 22, 517-534.
- Parke, A. & Griffiths, M. (2005). Aggressive behaviour in adult slot machine gamblers: An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis. *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology*, 15, 255-272.

### **3. Friendship**

This list of papers relates to studies / papers on the topic of friendship. The list includes both quantitative and qualitative studies that relate to a variety of features on friendship such as its role in wellbeing, reciprocity, mutual support, closeness, emotional investment etc. which are closely linked to the content of the interviews you will be analyzing. Scan the list below and pick out some references that will help you to substantiate any points you want to make in your write-up (e.g., you may want to argue that internet-mediated relationships have a different psychology). Bear in mind that yours is write up of a qualitative study so you might want to consider how this might shape your inclusion of quantitative studies in your report. Be strategic in your reading - always scan abstracts first before deciding which part of an article is worth reading. You DO NOT have to use all of these references – the list is here to help you orient to the right types of papers. You can search for your own references as well. Bear in mind that yours is write up of a qualitative study so you might want to consider how this might shape your inclusion of quantitative studies in your report.

- Affifi, W. A., & Faulkner, S. L. (2000). On being 'just friends': The frequency and impact of sexual activity in cross-sex friendships. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 17, 205-222.
- Ando, R., & Sakamoto, A. (2008). The effect of cyber-friends on loneliness and social anxiety: Differences between high and low self-evaluated physical attractiveness groups. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 24, 993-1009.
- Belot, M., & Ermisch, J. (2009). Friendship ties and geographical mobility: Evidence from Great Britain. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series a-Statistics in Society*, 172, 427-442.
- Bukowski, W. M. & L. K. Sippola (2005). Friendship and development: putting the most human relationship in its place. *New Directions in Child and Adolescent Development*, 109, 91-8.
- Buunk, A. P., Groothof, H. A. K., & Siero, F. W. (2007). Social comparison and satisfaction with one's social life. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 24, 197-205.
- Byron, P. (2016). Friendship, sexual intimacy and young people's negotiations of sexual health. *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 13, 1-15.
- Casper, D. M., & Card, N. A. (2010). "We Were Best Friends, But...": Two Studies of Antipathetic Relationships Emerging From Broken Friendships. *Journal of Adolescent Research*, 25, 499-526.
- Clark, M. S., & Reis, H. T. (1988). Interpersonal processes in close relationships. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 39, 609-672.
- Cook, T. D., Herman, M. R., Phillips, M., & Settersten, R. A. (2002). Some ways in which neighborhoods, nuclear families, friendship groups, and schools jointly affect changes in early adolescent development. *Child Development*, 73, 1283-1309.

- Cordeiro, R. (2005). Physical appearance and intimate friendship in adolescence: A study using a Portuguese college student sample. *Social Behavior and Personality*, 33, 89-93.
- Denovan, A., & Macaskill, A. (2013). An interpretative phenomenological analysis of stress and coping in first year undergraduates. *British Educational Research Journal*, 39, 1002-1024.
- Duck, S., Pond, K., & Leatham, G. (1994). Loneliness and the evaluation of relational events. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 11, 253-276.
- Eshel, Y., Sharabany, R., & Friedman, U. (1998). Friends, lovers and spouses: Intimacy in young adults. *British Journal of Social Psychology*, 37, 41-57.
- Fahs, B., & Munger, A. (2015). Friends with benefits? Gendered performances in women's casual sexual relationships. *Personal Relationships*, 22, 188-203.
- Fischer, M. J. (2008). Does campus diversity promote friendship diversity? A look at interracial friendships in college. *Social Science Quarterly*, 89, 631-655.
- Furman, W. (2001). Working models of friendships. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 18, 583-602.
- Gevers, A., Jewkes, R., Mathews, C., & Flisher, A. (2012). I think it's about experiencing, like, life: a qualitative exploration of contemporary adolescent intimate relationships in South Africa. *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 14, 1125-1137.
- Graber, R., Turner, R., & Madill, A. (2015). Best friends and better coping: Facilitating psychological resilience through boys' and girls' closest friendships. *British Journal of Psychology*, 107, 338-358.
- Griffiths, K. M., Crisp, D. A., Barney, L., & Reid, R. (2011). Seeking help for depression from family and friends: a qualitative analysis of perceived advantages and disadvantages. *BMC psychiatry*, 11, 1.
- Kelly, A. E., & McKillop, K. J. (1996). Consequences of revealing personal secrets. *Psychological Bulletin*, 120, 450-465.
- Laursen, B., & Bukowski, W. M. (1997). A developmental guide to the organisation of close relationships. *International Journal of Behavioral Development*, 21, 747-770.
- Lyrakos, D. G. (2012). The impact of stress, social support, self-efficacy and coping on university students, a multicultural European study. *Psychology*, 3, 143.
- Mack, D. E., Strong, H. A., Kowalski, K. C., & Crocker, P. R. E. (2007). Does friendship matter? An examination of social physique anxiety in adolescence. *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, 37, 1248-1264.
- Mackinnon, S. P., Nosko, A., Pratt, M. W., & Norris, J. E. (2011). Intimacy in young adults' narratives of romance and friendship predicts Eriksonian generativity: A mixed method analysis. *Journal of Personality*, 79, 587-617.
- Marmaros, D., & Sacerdote, B. (2006). How do friendships form? *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 121, 79-119.
- Meill, D. & Le Voi, M. Self-monitoring and control in dyadic interactions. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 49, 1652-1661.
- Mongeau, P. A., Knight, K., Williams, J., Eden, J., & Shaw, C. (2013). Identifying and explicating variation among friends with benefits relationships. *Journal of Sex Research*, 50, 37-47.
- Rotenberg, K. J., Gruman, J. A., & Ariganello, M. (2002). Behavioral confirmation of the loneliness stereotype. *Basic and Applied Social Psychology*, 24, 81-89.
- Firmin, M., Firmin, R., & Lorenzen, K. (2014). A qualitative analysis of loneliness dynamics involved with college

long-distance relationships. *College Student Journal*, 48(1), 57-71.

- Martin, K. E., Wood, L. J., Houghton, S., Carroll, A., & Hattie, J. (2014). I Don't have the Best Life': A qualitative exploration of adolescent loneliness. *Journal of Child and Adolescent Behaviour*, 2(169), 2.
- Schlenker, B. R., & Britt, T. W. (2001). Strategically controlling information to help friends: Effects of empathy and friendship strength on beneficial impression management. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 37, 357-372.
- Shany, M., Wiener, J., Assido, M. (2013). Friendship predictors of global self-worth and domain-specific self concepts in university students with and without learning disability. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 46, 444-452.
- Sheldon, K. M., & Elliot, A. J. (2000). Personal goals in social roles: Divergences and convergences across roles and levels of analysis. *Journal of Personality*, 68, 51-84.
- Stanton-Salazar, R. D. & S. U. Spina (2005). Adolescent peer networks as a context for social and emotional support. *Youth & Society*, 36, 379-417.
- Stearns, E., Buchmann, C., & Bonneau, K. (2009). Interracial friendships in the transition to college: Do birds of a feather flock together once they leave the nest? *Sociology of Education*, 82, 173-195.
- Tong, S. T., Van Der Heide, B., Langwell, L., & Walther, J. B. (2008). Too much of a good thing? The relationship between number of friends and interpersonal impressions on FaceBook. *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 13, 531-549.
- Van Der Velden, M., & El Emam, K. (2013). "Not all my friends need to know": A qualitative study of teenage patients, privacy, and social media. *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association*, 20, 16-24.
- Walther, J. B., Van der Heide, B., Kim, S. Y., Westerman, D., & Tong, S. T. (2008). The role of friends' appearance and behavior on evaluations of individuals on FaceBook: Are we known by the company we keep? *Human Communication Research*, 34, 28-U60.