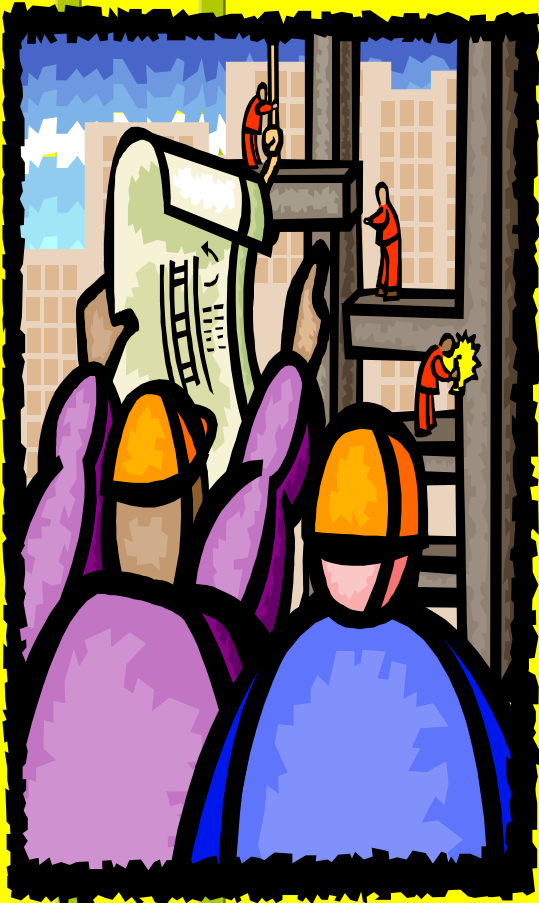


# SPECIAL TOPIC SEMINAR



## THE DISSERTATION PROPOSAL

### SESSION 3: CHAPTER 3

### FOR

## WALDEN UNIVERSITY

by

## Earl C. Joseph

# TOPICS COVERED

- DEFINITIONS
- KEY QUESTIONS TO ANSWER
- STARTING POINT
- RESEARCH DATA
- VARIABLES
- PROCEDURE
- INSTRUMENTATION
- RELIABILITY & VALIDITY
- *RESEARCHER'S REVIEW OF PROPOSAL*



# DEFINITIONS

- **DISSERTATION**: A SUBSTANTIVE, ORIGINAL, SCHOLARLY STUDY OF A TOPIC GROUNDED IN SOCIAL SCIENCE WHICH MAKES A UNIQUE CONTRIBUTION TO KNOWLEDGE
- **PROPOSAL**: *THE FIRST THREE CHAPTERS OF THE DISSERTATION - A COHERENT, SYSTEMATIC, AND METHODOLOGICAL PLAN*
- **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY SECTION**: *EXPLICITLY STATES WHAT & HOW RESEARCH WILL BE CONDUCTED*

# KEY QUESTIONS TO ANSWER



- **WHAT DO YOU EXPLICITLY PLAN TO RESEARCH**
- ***HOW DOES YOUR RESEARCH LINK TO YOUR PURPOSE, RESEARCH QUESTIONS OR HYPOTHESIS***
- **WHAT RESEARCH METHOD WILL YOU USE & WHY**
- **WHAT DATA YOU WILL COLLECT & ANALYZE**

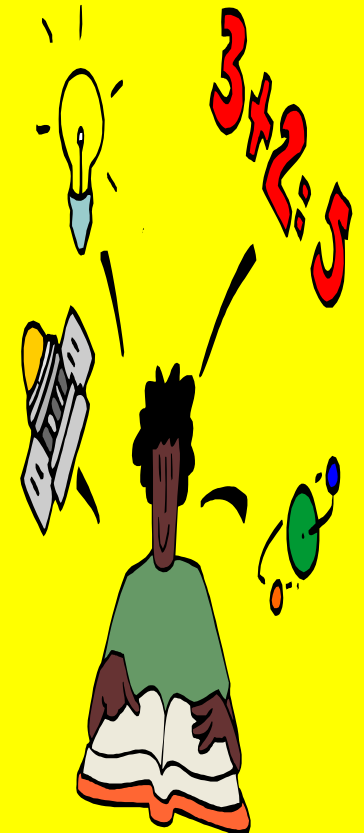
# STARTING POINT

## ■ **DECIDE:**

- ◆ THE APPROPRIATE TYPE OF DISSERTATION RESEARCH METHODOLOGY YOU WILL USE

## ■ **WRITE INTRODUCTION:**

- ◆ INTRODUCTION TO THIS CHAPTER
- ◆ RESTATE PURPOSE & RESEARCH QUESTIONS OR HYPOTHESIS
- ◆ STATE WHAT DATA YOU WILL ANALYZE & INTERPRET



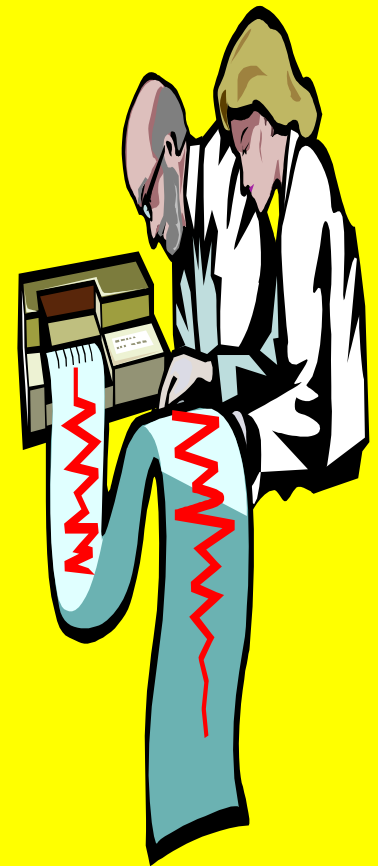
# TYPES OF RESEARCH METHODS

- CASE STUDY
- CAUSAL COMPARATIVE
- SURVEY
- GROUNDED
- FIELD
- HISTORICAL
- DESCRIPTIVE
- KNOWLEDGE BASED
- EXPLORATORY, ...



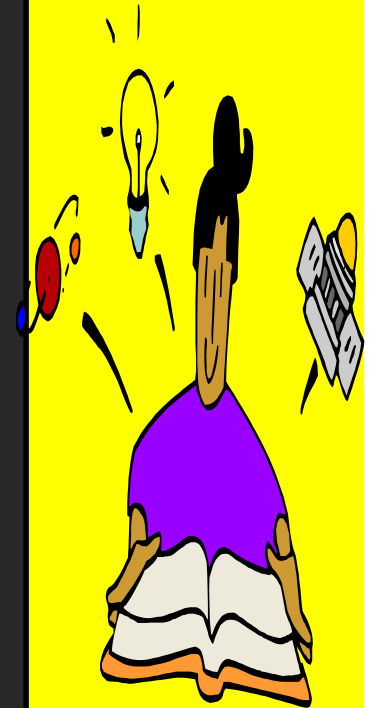
# RESEARCH DATA

- DESCRIBE WHAT DATA YOU WILL COLLECT & HOW YOU WILL ANALYZE IT
- DESCRIBE SELECTION OF YOUR POPULATION (WHY & HOW SELECTED) & WHAT TYPE:
  - ◆ *TOTAL SET*
  - ◆ *RANDOM SELECTION*
  - ◆ *CONVINIENCE SELECTION*



# VARIABLES

- **DEFINE THE INDEPENDENT VARIABLES, AND**
  - ◆ **DESCRIBE HOW THEY WILL BE MANIPULATED TO CAUSE CHANGE IN THE DEPENDANT VARIABLES**
- **DEFINE THE DEPENDENT VARIABLES, AND**
  - ◆ **DESCRIBE POSSIBLE CHANGE LIMITS**



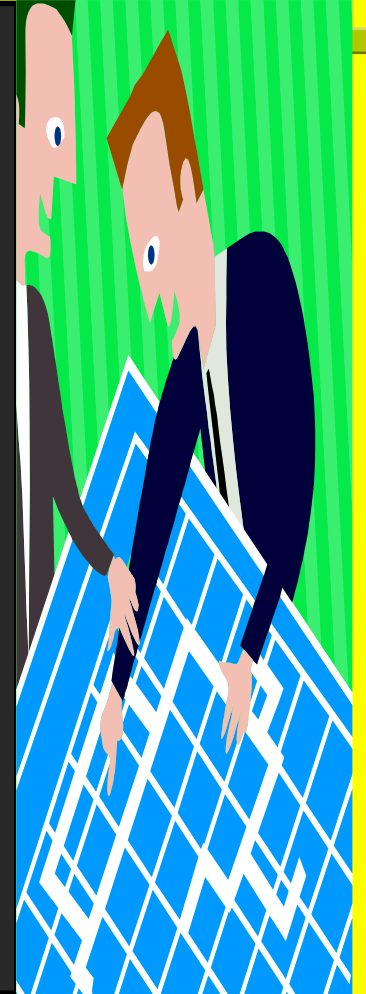
# PROCEDURE

- **CONDUCT A PRETEST**
- ***GATHER DATA FROM THE POPULATION***
- **ANALYZE THE DATA**
- ***DEFINE AND SHOW WHICH DATA APPLIES TO EACH RESEARCH QUESTION AND THE HYPOTHESIS***
- **ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR DISCOVERY OF KEY RESULTS**



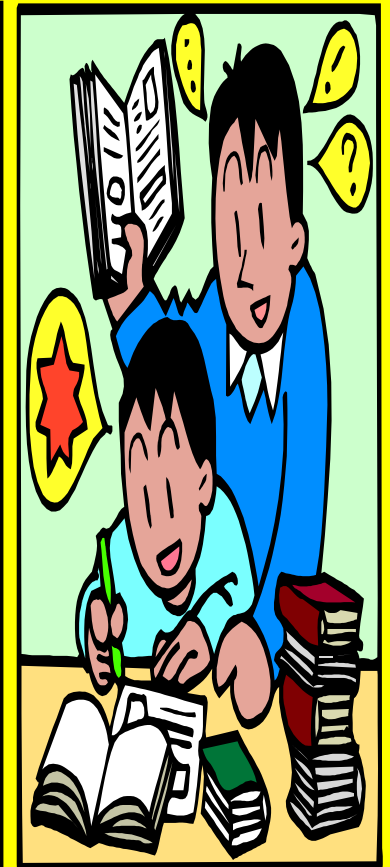
# CONDUCT OF THE RESEARCH PLAN

- **EXPLICITLY DESCRIBE HOW THE RESEARCH WILL BE CONDUCTED**
  - ◆ **OUTLINE IN DETAIL EACH STEP IN THE PROCESS**
  - ◆ **FOLLOW AN ACCEPTED PROTOCOL OF THE CHOSEN RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**
  - ◆ **DESCRIBE ANY UNIQUE WAY YOU WILL CONDUCT IT**
- **WRITE IT TO CONVINCING A READER THAT IT WILL PRODUCE THE DESIRED RESULTS**



# ***DATA COLLECTION ADMINISTRATION***

- **DESCRIBE COLLECTION PROCESS**
- **DESCRIBE CONTROLS TO:**
  - ◆ ***OBTAIN "GOOD" DATA***
  - ◆ ***SAFEGUARD DATA***
  - ◆ ***ANALYZE DATA***
- **DESCRIBE WHAT DATA COLLECTED WILL BE EXCLUDED**
- **DESCRIBE DATA TRIANGULATION**



# INSTRUMENTATION

## ■ DESCRIBE DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENTS:

- ◆ *SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE*
- ◆ *RECORDS AND/OR REPORTS*
- ◆ *MEASUREMENTS*
- ◆ *FIELD EXPERIMENTS*
- ◆ *SCRIP (FOR FACE-TO-FACE)*
- ◆ *HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS*
- ◆ *LITERATURE OR OTHER*

## ■ JUSTIFY INSTRUMENTATION METHOD



# RELIABILITY



- **DESCRIBE PROCEDURE USED TO TEST RELIABILITY OF DATA INSTRUMENTS:**
  - ◆ *USE OF A PAST RELIABLE ONE*
  - ◆ *PRETESTED & VARIFIED*
- **DISCUSSION SHOULD CONVINCING A READER THAT IT IS RELIABLE**

# VALIDITY

- **DESCRIBE THE PROCESS YOU WILL USE TO VERIFY THE VALIDITY OF THE DATA AND THE INSTRUMENT**
- **USE A PROVEN METHOD THIS VERIFICATION OF VALIDITY PROCESS**



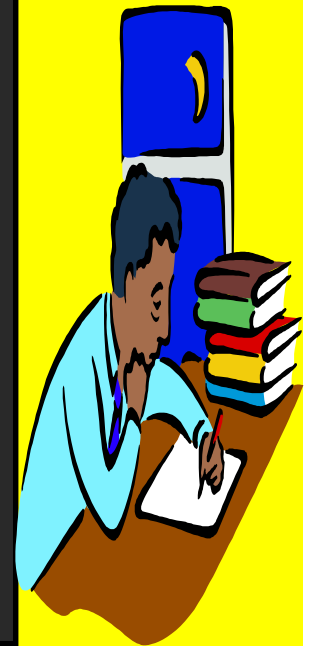
## ***RESEARCHER'S REVIEW OF PROPOSAL- 1***

- **DOES THE TOTAL PROPOSAL EXPLAIN ADEQUATELY:**
  - ◆ **THAT YOUR RESEARCH RELATES TO WHAT YOU INTEND TO DISCOVER?**
  - ◆ **THAT THE WAY YOU UNDERSTAND AND CONCEPTUALIZE IT RELATES TO THE PROBLEM & PURPOSE STATEMENTS OF THE RESEARCH?**
  - ◆ **THE RESEARCH METHOD YOU PLAN TO USE**



## ***RESEARCHER'S REVIEW OF PROPOSAL- 2***

- **ASSESS IF YOUR TOTAL PROPOSAL DOCUMENT WILL CONVINCe YOUR DISSERTATION COMMITTEE THAT YOU HAVE A VIABLE PROPOSAL:**
  - ◆ ***IMPORTANCE OF THE RESEARCH***
  - ◆ ***YOUR WAY OF DOING THE RESEARCH***
  - ◆ ***THAT YOUR METHOD OF RESEARCH WILL ACHIEVE THE DESIRED RESULTS***
  - ◆ ***THAT THE PROPOSAL IS COMPLETE***



# APPENDICES



## ■ INSTRUMENTS

◆ *SURVEY (IF USED) DRAFT*

◆ *LETTER TO PARTICIPANTS*

## ■ PILOT DATA

■ MATERIAL THAT ELABORATES  
ON SOME AREA

■ OTHER INFORMATION

# TYPES OF DATA - 1

## ■ 4 DIFFERENT LEVELS/TYPES OF DATA:

- ◆ NOMINAL/CATEGORICAL
- ◆ ORDINAL: ORDERED OR RANKED
- ◆ INTERVAL
- ◆ RATIO

## ■ DATA TYPES:

- ◆ QUANTITATIVE/QUALITATIVE
- ◆ CONSTANT
- ◆ VARIABLE: INDEPENDENT/DEPENDANT
- ◆ HISTORICAL/CURRENT/FUTURE/STRATEGIC

## TYPES OF DATA - 2

- **COMPLEXITY OF THE DATA INCREASES AS WE MOVE DOWN THE LIST**
- **DATA ARE OBSERVATIONS OF VALUES OF SOME RANDOM VARIABLE**
- **WHAT WE MEASURE DETERMINES THE LEVEL OF DATA**

# TYPES OF DATA - 3

■ a