DEVELOPING MIXED-METHODS

Anthropology has long been using mixed methods—which are inherent in ethnographic research (See Pelto, 2017¹). At the time I was conducting my dissertation research (1980-81) and conducted two projects: The childbirth (nursing) dissertation was qualitatively-driven, and the infant feeding dissertation (anthropology) was quantitatively-driven. At that time. I had not read Jennifer Greene's² et al. (1989) seminal work about mixed methods but had read about triangulation. Therefore, when I wrote the much cited article: Approaches to qualitative-quantitative methodological triangulation.³ I used the term "triangulation'—which of course should have been *mixed methods*. (Apologies, Jennifer). However, in this article, I developed the notation system that is used widely in mixed methods.

Both dissertation projects were *integrated* at the *results level*, and both were one project consisting of a qualitative core (Nursing, childbirth) and a quantitative core (in Anthropology infant feeding), so that when I commenced writing and teaching mixed-methods, I insisted that mixed-methods was a single method project, with added *qual* or *quan* supplements. Hence the hyphen, that is supposed to remind users that they are doing one method with strategies as supplements. Mixed methods (without a hyphen, I prefer to place in the category of *multiple methods*, as both "strands" are complete methods that stand on their own, and often published separately.

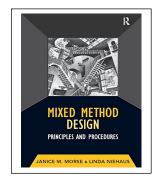
¹ Pelto, P.J. (2017). *Mixed methods in ethnographic research.* New York: Routledge

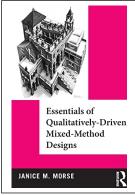
² Greene, J. C., Caracelli, V. J., & Graham, W. F. (1989). Toward a conceptual framework for mixed-method evaluation designs. *Educational evaluation and policy analysis*, 11(3), 255-274.

³ Morse, J. M. (1991). Approaches to qualitative-quantitative methodological triangulation. *Nursing Research*, *40*(2), 120-123. Reprinted in 2008, *The Mixed Methods Reader*. (pg. 151-160.) Ed by Vicki L. Plano Clark & John W. Creswell, Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

In addition to the hyphen bit, <u>I differ from other mixed methods researchers</u> on several other important points, but I note they are coming to see things my way, but sometimes change the terms. Concepts I have introduced into mixed methods (mostly the 1991 article⁴) are:

- 1) Theoretical drive, also Qualitatively-driven and Quantitatively-driven;
- 2) Pacing
- 3) Research narrative
- 4) Simultaneous +
- 5) Sequential —>
- 6) Core component
- 7) Supplemental component
- 8) Linking
- 9) Point of Interface





In 2017, I made a plea for the lack of attention to qualitatively-driven mixed methods, and presently developing a new approach, *Inquiry-led mixed-methods*. *Inquiry-led mixed-method* will emphasize the malleability and inductive advantages of mixed-methods designs.

I taught mixed-methods at the PHD & post doc level from 2000-2006 at the University of Alberta; and from 2007-2020 at the University of Utah. Publications in mixed-methods include:

Morse, J. M. (1991). Approaches to qualitative-quantitative methodological triangulation. *Nursing Research*, 40(2), 120-123. Reprinted in 2008, *The Mixed Methods Reader*. (pg. 151-160.) Ed by Vicki L. Plano Clark & John W. Creswell, Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Morse, J. M. (2003). Principles of mixed and multi-method research design. In A. Tashakkori & C. Teddlie (Eds.), *Handbook of mixed methods in social and behavioural research.* Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Morse, J. M., Niehaus, L., Wolfe, R., Wilkins, S. (2006). The role of theoretical-drive in maintaining validity mixed-method research. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, *3* (4), 279-291.

 $^{^{4}}$ See Morse, (2017) Essentials of Qualitatively-driven Mixed-methods Designs, p. 11.

- Morse, J. M., Niehaus, L. & Wolfe, R. (2005). The utilization of mixed-method design in nursing research. *International Nursing Review (Japanese)*, 28(2), 61-66.
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- Morse, J. M. (2014). Qualitative Research. Mixed-Methods. Encyclopedia entries in *Ethics, Science, Technology: A International Resource*. (2nd ed). Alan Hedblad & Carl Mitcham (eds). Delaware: Engage Learning Inc.
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- Morse, J. M. (2017). Qualitatively-Driven Mixed-method designs. New York: Routledge.
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