

Methods MATTER PODCAST

Episode #3 - QUALITATIVE LONGITUDINAL METHODS.

— with —
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These are
a FAMILY OF
METHODS used
to carry out
INQUIRIES
over TIME.

They are all concerned
with describing the
effects of the passing
of TIME, and the QUALITY
and CAUSES of CHANGE.

They take
a series of CROSS-
SECTIONAL ANALYSES
at regular intervals
over time.

The time range
these kinds of studies
can cover can vary
significantly, from
years to months to
days.

When preparing,
make sure you have
TOTAL CLARITY on the
INTENTIONS of your
research, and think about
what is reasonable to ask
from participants.

Keep a FIELDWORK
JOURNAL from the
outset to capture
the CONTEXT of the
RESEARCH from its
outset.

Familiarise
yourself with any
existing data and
research on the
topic.

Rather than being
about the dispassionate
study of a subject...



...these methods involve building
and maintaining relationships
with participants and their
communities.



Professor Bren Neale has
described this as "walking
hand in hand with the subject..."



... Looking at participants' lives
within their social context
through time.



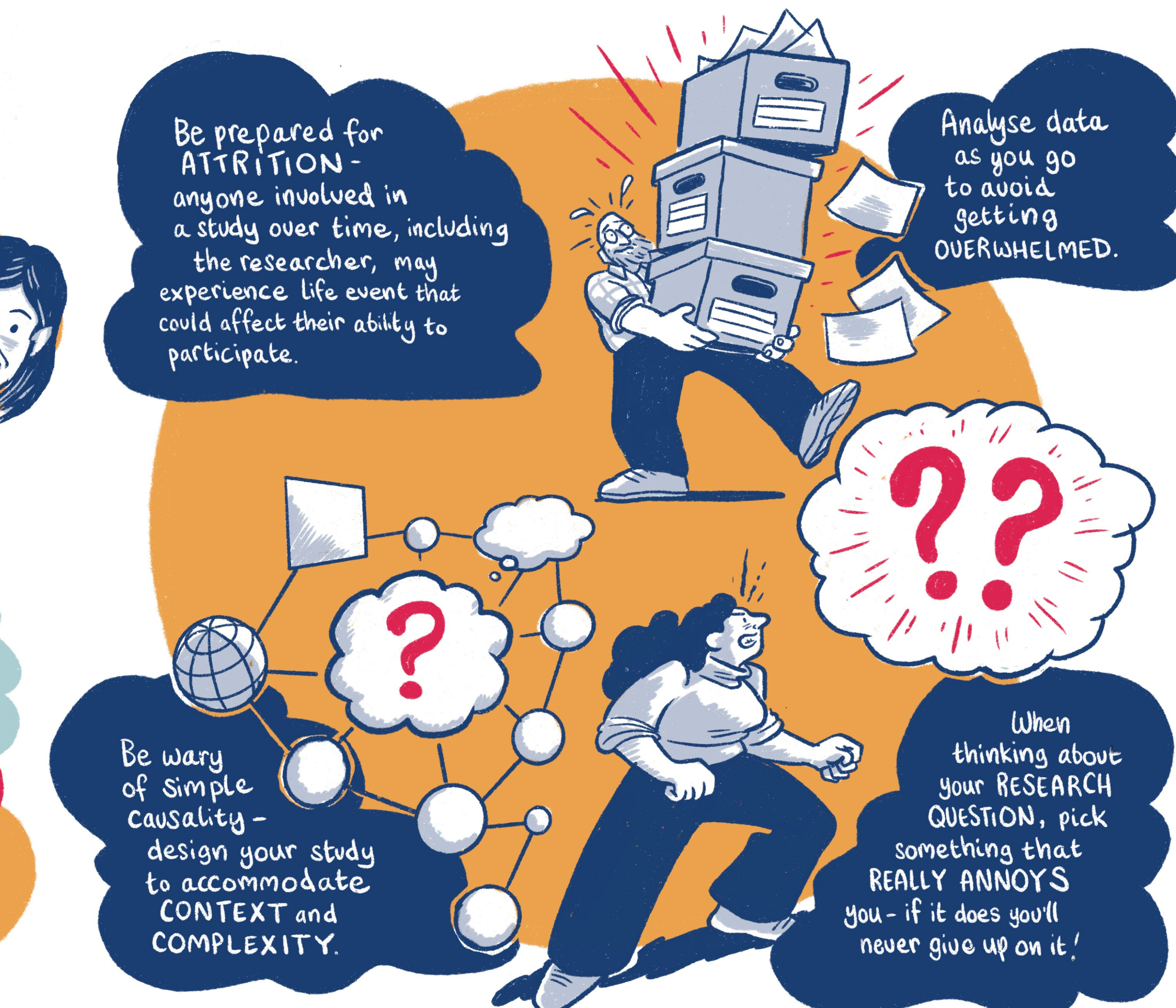
The time involved in these
methods, and the amount of data
they generate, can be intimidating
to researchers.



Because of this, projects
such as these can rely on
TEAMWORK and very
careful preparation and
planning to see through.



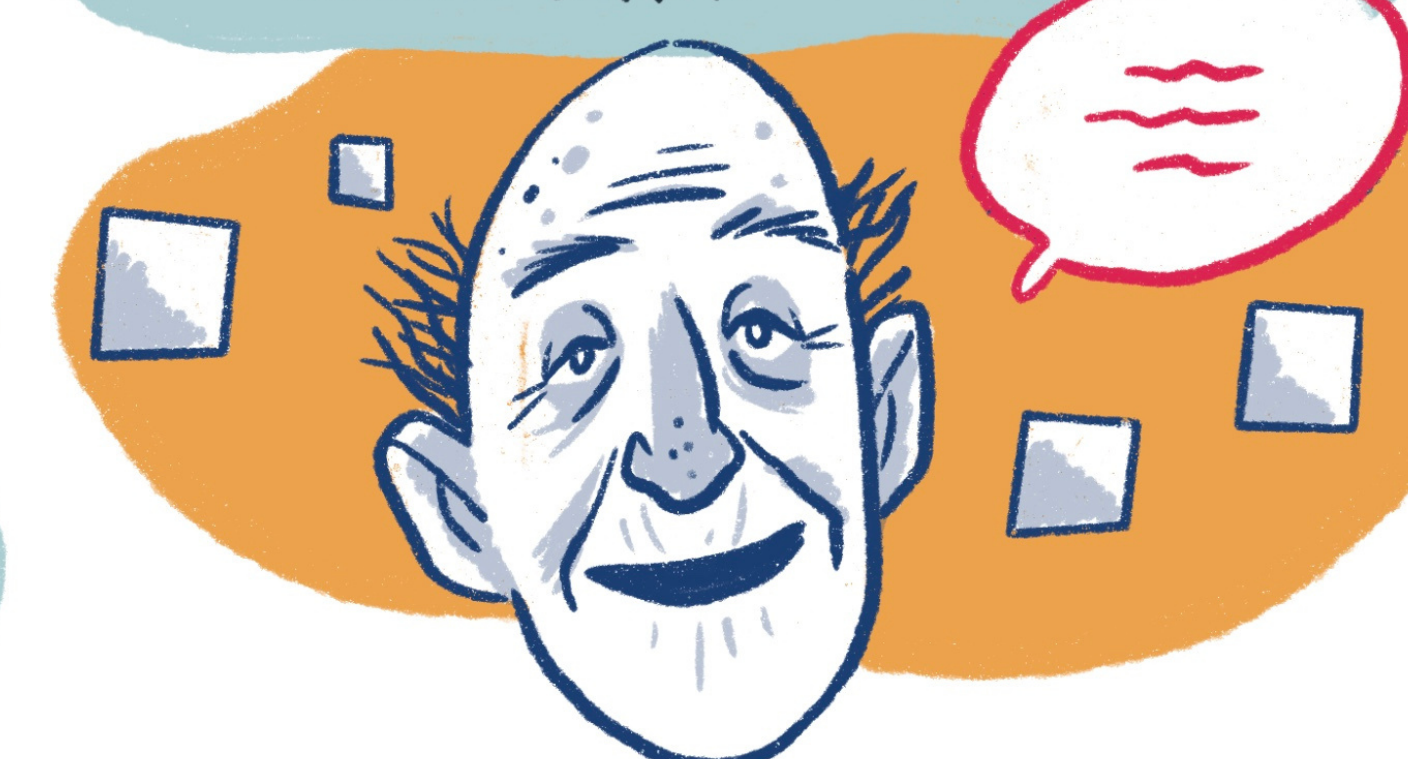
Be prepared for
ATTRITION -
anyone involved in
a study over time, including
the researcher, may
experience life event that
could affect their ability to
participate.



When recruiting don't prioritise
the quantity of participants -
focus on building quality
relationships
over time.



Think about how
people can PARTICIPATE in a
study in ways that are
MEANINGFUL to them and
which can also generate
USEFUL DATA.



Be wary of simple
causality -
design your study
to accommodate
CONTEXT and
COMPLEXITY.

When
thinking about
your RESEARCH
QUESTION, pick
something that
REALLY ANNOYS
you - if it does you'll
never give up on it!

EVERYTHING YOU NEED, ALL IN ONE PLACE

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