

Transcript

One minute methods – participant observer research

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Whether it's hanging out with inner city gangs of New York or spending all day foraging with the Hadza, some researchers fully immerse themselves in the communities they want to understand more about; eating, sleeping, working and playing alongside them. Researchers observe, take notes and ask questions as they participate in day-to-day activities, cultural practices and customs. As far as it is possible, this allows researchers to experience life as if they were an insider or local and explore the way the group organise their lives around different social, moral and political frameworks. This type of long-term fieldwork usually results in a written account of a group, place or institution based on the experience of the researcher, interviews with people, or analysis of the group's documents and artifacts. Participant observer research with different groups around the world has led to a deeper understanding of the diversity of human cultures as well as our shared ways of life.