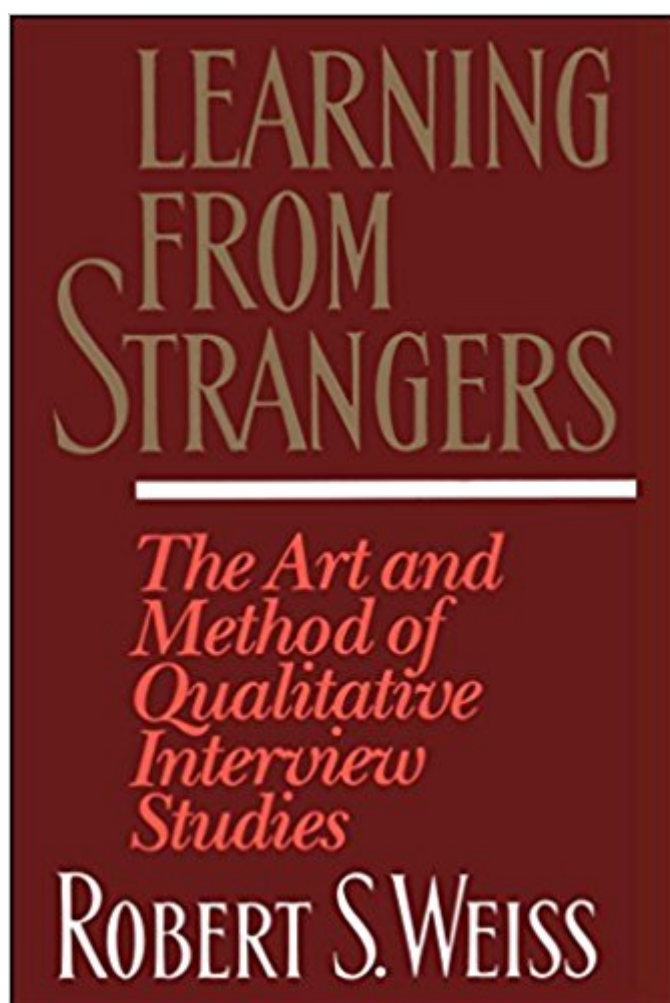


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# Learning From Strangers: The Art And Method Of Qualitative Interview Studies



## Synopsis

Learning From Strangers is the definitive work on qualitative research interviewing. It draws on Robert Weiss's thirty years of experience in interviewing and teaching others how to do it. The most effective interviews, says Weiss, rely on creating cooperation -- an open and trusting alliance between interviewer and respondent, dedicated to specific and honest accounts of both internal and external events. Against the eclectic background of his work in national sample surveys, studies based on semi-structured interviewing, and participant observation, Weiss walks the reader through the method of qualitative interview studies: sample selection, development of an interview guide, the conduct of the interview, analysis, and preparation of the data. Weiss gives examples of successful and less successful interviews and offers specific techniques and guidelines for the practitioner.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Arlene Kaplan Daniels Northwestern University I have nothing but unqualified praise for this work. The book will be a boon to instructors of qualitative methods and to workers in the field. It tells you what you really must know to do various qualitative interviews, why you need to do it and how to do it. Lisa R. Peathie

Dr. Robert S. Weiss is Director of the Work and Family Research Unit and Research Professor at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. He is the author of several books including *Staying the Course* (The Free Press, 1990).

If you are in a sociology, anthropology, or enlightened criminology department, you will benefit from this book. The book is admittedly a bit dated but the principles are timeless. The text is organized in a way that makes the text relevant to the casual reader and the scholar who is putting chapters together for their dissertation. Lots of material in here could be quoted and placed directly in "Methods" and "Limitations" section of your own manuscripts. Can you tell that I really like this book?

Dear friends, I already had several books on this subject but purchased it in the expectation that I would learn something new. I was not disappointed. The writing style is lucid engaging and concise. John Barnes, Bangkok, Thailand

This book is essential for anyone interested in qualitative interviewing. What is especially valuable is the way that Weiss helps describe the larger philosophical commitments that relate to interviewing as a type of qualitative research. If you are interested in qualitative research or interviewing, this book is essential. Its easy to read and understand.

I used Learning From Strangers as a reference book while writing my "Thesis." I found the author's approach very helpful, especially in choosing my participants for my interviews.

This is a good book for anyone who is new at conducting interviews. It discusses the benefits of different ways to interview (structured, semi-structured) and other tips on interviewing. When I started interviewing, all I could think about was what I learned from this book.

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bought to replace the copy my boss leant me, great book on how to use the skills of interview to get scientific results.

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