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# Crafting Stories From Verbatim Data in Hermeneutic Phenomenology Is Trustworthy and Useful

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Hermeneutic phenomenology has grown in popularity by health-care researchers from various disciplines. The processes and strategies employed in enacting this methodology are varied and continue to evolve. The evolution of hermeneutic methodological approaches is congruent with the philosophical underpinnings that attunes researchers to an unbounded yet focused project. One area of debate is how this methodology uses and reports data from interviews. There remains controversy concerning how verbatim interview data are used in hermeneutic methodology. The belief that only using purely verbatim data is trustworthy is challenged in this presentation. Using examples from two multidisciplinary studies, the “how” and “why” of crafted stories is presented revealing how this approach maintains the congruence of the research design and philosophical thinking. Several philosophical notions are introduced in this presentation that question restrictive use of verbatim data. It is reasoned that the use of crafted stories in hermeneutic phenomenology is philosophically aligned and is a trustworthy and useful stratagem in hermeneutic phenomenology research projects.