



Phenomenological Method as A Theoretical Basis of Qualitative Methods

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KEYWORDS	ABSTRACT
Phenomenology, Qualitative Research, Subjective Experience	This paper discusses the phenomenological method as a theoretical basis for qualitative research. Phenomenology, which originates from the philosophical tradition, emphasizes the importance of understanding individual subjective experiences of a particular phenomenon or event. Through this approach, researchers can deepen and understand individual meanings, perceptions, and interpretations of the reality they experience. This paper explains the basic concepts of phenomenology, contributions from leading philosophers such as Edmund Husserl, Martin Heidegger, and Jean-Paul Sartre, and how phenomenological principles are applied in qualitative research. Apart from that, this paper also reviews the advantages and disadvantages of the phenomenological method in the context of qualitative research and provides examples of its practical application in various fields of study. It is hoped that through this paper, readers can gain a deep understanding of the relevance and significance of phenomenology in qualitative research

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INTRODUCTION

In the world of research, there are various methods that can be used by researchers to explore information and understand a phenomenon (Johnston et al., 2017). One method that has gained special attention in recent decades is the qualitative method, which emphasizes a deep understanding of an individual's experiences, perceptions, and interpretations. Among the various approaches in qualitative research, phenomenology is one of the approaches that emphasizes the understanding of the subjective experience of the individual. Phenomenology stands out as one of the most fundamental and philosophical methods (Creswell, 2019a).

Phenomenology, with its strong philosophical roots, offers a unique framework for understanding and interpreting the human experience (Cuthbertson et al., 2020). With a focus on subjective consciousness and meaning, phenomenology allows researchers to approach reality from an individual's perspective and understand how they interpret the world around them.

This paper aims to provide an in-depth understanding of phenomenological methods as a theoretical foundation in qualitative research. In particular, this paper will explain the basic concepts and principles of phenomenology, the contributions and views of leading philosophers who contributed to the development of phenomenology, how phenomenology is applied in the context of qualitative research, and its relevance in understanding the human experience (Williams, 2021).

In this study, several previous studies are an important foundation, as proposed by Creswell (2019b) and Moleong (2019), which discuss the application of phenomenology in social research.

Although these studies provide valuable insights into the use of phenomenological methods, there is a significant gap in the understanding of their impact in certain cultural contexts that has not been widely explored.

For example, previous studies have tended to focus on subjective experiences in general without considering specific variables that might affect the results of research in different settings. Therefore, this study aims to bridge this gap by examining subjective experiences in a more specific context, namely (mention special context), which has not been widely studied. Thus, this research not only strengthens the understanding of phenomenology but also makes new contributions related to its application in more specific environments. Through this approach, research is expected to enrich the existing literature by providing new perspectives and opening up further research avenues related to phenomenology in various cultural contexts (Chan et al., 2015).

METHOD

The approach used in this study is qualitative-descriptive research. Qualitative research is said to be a series of research that is able to produce data in the form of descriptive words, both written and oral, from observable objects or human behaviors (Iqbal et al., 2023). This type of research is also classified as library research, which is research that uses library materials related to the discussion in this research, both primary, secondary, and tertiary materials and materials that can support this research.

Qualitative research is a type of research based on the philosophy of postpositivism, which is used to research the condition of natural objects that are the opposite of experiments, and the researcher is the key instrument (White & Cooper, 2022), the data collection technique is carried out by triangulation, data analysis is inductive or qualitative, and the results of qualitative research emphasize meaning rather than generalization.

This type of qualitative research includes library research. Therefore, the data source that the researcher refers to is literature taken from written sources such as books, journals, theses, official documents, and others. The sources of research are various primary, secondary, and tertiary documents. In this study, there are three categories of data sources, namely primary and secondary data sources.

Data sources come from documents that can complement primary and secondary data, such as dictionaries, encyclopedias, and cumulative indexes. Apart from some of the literature mentioned above, as support, researchers also refer to various scientific articles, official documents, and the Internet (Casino et al., 2019).

Bogdan & Biklen explained that data analysis is a series of data analysis activities that are carried out regularly and neatly arranged to find and compile data obtained previously through data collection and other sources that can be understood. Then, the results of the data analysis can be shared with others.

The data analysis technique used in this study is content analysis. Fraenkel and Wallen define content analysis as a way of conducting research that focuses on the actual content and internal features of the media. This technique can be used by researchers to study human behaviour indirectly through the analysis of their communication, such as textbooks, essays, newspapers, novels, magazine articles, songs, advertising images and all types of communication that can be analyzed (Berger, 2018).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In the results of the research and the results of the discussion, qualitative research theories will be presented, the meaning of phenomenology will be seen from the historical perspective of the emergence of phenomenological studies in scientific studies, the basic principles of phenomenology

from several scientists will be examined whether phenology can be used as a theoretical basis for qualitative research and will be given examples of its application in several research journals that discuss qualitative research methods with using a phenomenological approach.

Qualitative Research

Research methodology is a research strategy that drives basic philosophical assumptions in research design and data collection. The choice of research method has an effect on the way the researcher takes to collect data (Taherdoost, 2021). The specificity of research methods also has implications for different research skills, assumptions and practices. Qualitative research is generally used in the world of social and cultural sciences; the research is carried out in relation to human behavior and the meaning contained behind that behavior which is difficult to measure with numbers. Qualitative research is research that originates from an inductive mindset, which is based on participatory objective observation of social phenomena.

Qualitative research is scientific research that aims to understand a phenomenon in a social context in nature by prioritizing the process of in-depth communication interaction between researchers and the phenomenon being studied (Daher et al., 2017). Phenomena about what the research subjects experience, such as behavior, perception, motivation, inaction, and others holistically, in a descriptive way in the form of words and language, in a special context that is natural and by utilizing various scientific methods.

Sugiyono explained the skin-based research method is research based on the philosophy of postpositivism, used to research on natural object conditions (as opposed to experiments) where the researcher is the key instrument, sampling data sources is carried out purposively and snowball. The collection technique by triangulation (combined), and data analysis is inductive/qualitative, and the results of qualitative research emphasize meaning rather than generalization (Amadi, 2023). According to Anselm Strauss and Juliet Corbin, qualitative research is intended as a type of research whose findings are not obtained through statistical procedures or other forms of calculation.

In qualitative methods or approaches, the social and human sciences offer several traditions. This tradition is in the types of data collection, data analysis, and writing research reports or overall designs that include all stages in the research process. Provides several examples of design in a qualitative approach, including designs discussed in human ethology, ecological psychology, holistic ethnography, cognitive anthropology, ethnography of communication and symbolic interactionism. Qualitative approaches are also categorized into interpretive approaches, artistic approaches, systematic approaches and theory-driven approaches. Tesch identified 20 types and categories aimed at the characteristics of language, the discovery of regularities, the comprehension of meaning and reflection, noted qualitative research with anthropological perspective, sociological perspective, biological perspectives, the case study, personal account, cognitive studies, and historical inquiry.

Creswell gave examples of four designs he found in social and human sciences research, namely ethnographic, Grounded Theory, Case Study, and Phenomenological studies. Meanwhile, according to Myers (2021) (www.qual.auckland.ac.nz/a) qualitative research methods consist of action research, case study research, ethnography and grounded theory.

Phenomenology

It will be discussed related to a Brief Historical Background of Phenomenology, the opinions of the early philosophers Edmund Husserl, Martin Heidegger and Jan-paul Sartre, the analysis of the meaning of Phenomenological Research, which is also related to the definition of Phenomenological Research as a theoretical basis for qualitative research is given examples of its application in previous research journal, along with an abstract summary of the discussion, so that it can be used as an example of cool use in the title this research.

A. Historical Background of Phenomenology where initially

The term phenomenology was introduced by J.H. Lambert in 1764 to refer to the Theory of Truth (Bagus, 2002, p. 234). After that, this term was expanded in its meaning. According to Kockelmans (1967, in Moustakas 1994:26), phenomenology was used in philosophy in 1765, which is sometimes found in the works of Immanuel Kant, which were well defined and constructed as technically meaningful by Hegel. According to Hegel, phenomenology is concerned with the knowledge that arises in consciousness, the science that describes what a person understands in his consciousness and experience.

Phenomenology was intensely initiated as the first study of philosophy by Edmund Husserl (1859-1938), so Husserl is often regarded as the Father of Phenomenology. His philosophy was very popular around the 1950s. The main purpose of this philosophy is to provide a foundation for philosophy to function as a pure and autonomous science (Kuper and Kuper, ed., 1996:749). At the beginning of its development, phenomenology was a set of approaches in philosophical and sociological studies, as well as the study of art (Edgar & Sedgwick, 1999, p. 271)

Husserl's emergence of phenomenology was based on the reality of a scientific crisis. In this crisis, science cannot give any advice to humans. Science is separated from the practice of daily life. This, according to Husserl, is that the concept of true theory has been largely forgotten by many advanced disciplines in today's scientific culture. In this regard, Husserl makes the following criticisms of science:

Science has fallen into objectivism, which is a way of viewing the world as an arrangement of objective facts with inevitable relationships (Hiller, 2016). For Husserl, such knowledge comes from everyday pre-scientific knowledge, called *Lebenswelt*.

Human consciousness or subject is swallowed up by these objectivistic interpretations because science does not at all cleanse itself from the interests of the world of daily life. The theory that results from the pursuit of knowledge from these interests is the true theory that the Western tradition of thought understands (Lehrer, 2018).

B. Philosophers of Phenomenology

Phenomenology is one approach in qualitative research that focuses on individuals' subjective life experiences and how they understand and give meaning to those experiences (Neubauer et al., 2019a). Many experts have given their opinions and definitions of phenomenological research. The following are some of the opinions of experts regarding qualitative phenomenological research

1) Edmund Husserl: founder of phenomenology

Background: Edmund Husserl (1859-1938) is considered the founder of phenomenology. He was initially trained as a mathematician before turning to philosophy. Key concepts:

- a) Epoché: husserl introduced the concept of "epoché" or "suspension", in which a person suspends or withholds all judgments and assumptions in order to be able to see phenomena as they are.
- b) Intentionality: Husserl argues that consciousness always has an object; there is always a relationship between the subject and the object. This is known as the concept of "intentionality".
- c) Phenomenological reduction: the process by which a phenomenon is reduced to its essence, eliminating everything irrelevant to understanding the true meaning of the phenomenon.

2) Martin Heidegger: phenomenology and *dasein*

Background: Martin Heidegger (1889-1976) was a pupil of Husserl, who then developed a different phenomenology with a focus on the concept of "*dasein*" or "being". Key concepts:

- a) *Dasein*: For Heidegger, man is not just a subject who understands objects but entities that "exist-in-the world". He introduced the concept of "*dasein*" to describe this unique human existence

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- b) Authenticity: heidegger emphasizes the importance of living in an authentic way, in which a person acknowledges and accepts the reality of his existence.
 - c) Sein-zum-tode (being-towards-death): the acceptance of death as an integral part of existence, which helps a person live in a more authentic way.
- 3) Jan-Paul Sartre: phenomenology and existentialism
- Background: Jean-Paul Sartre (1905-1980) was a French philosopher who combined phenomenology with existentialism, emphasizing individual freedom, choice, and responsibility. Key concepts:
- a) Freedom: For Sartre, freedom is the essence of human existence. Humans are always free to choose, although this also means that they must be responsible for their choices.
 - b) Man is condemned to be free: although freedom is a human right, it is also a curse because it carries great responsibility
 - c) Mauvais foi (bad faith): When a person denies his freedom and responsibility, he or she lives in "bad faith" or dishonesty towards himself.
- We have explored the contributions and views of the three main philosophers who contributed to the development of phenomenology. Although they have different approaches and focuses, they all emphasize the importance of understanding the human experience from a subjective perspective.
- 4) Patricia Benner: Known for her nursing, Benner uses phenomenology to understand nursing practice and how nurses develop their skills. He emphasized the importance of "tacit knowledge" or unspoken knowledge in daily practice.

There are several other philosophers who are interested in phenomenology, including Max van Manen: Clark Moustakas, Maurice Merleau-Ponty, Annemarie Mol Qualitative phenomenological research has made important contributions in various fields of science, from philosophy to the social sciences, due to its ability to deepen the understanding of human experience. This approach emphasizes listening to and understanding individual voices in order to understand the world from their perspective.

C. Phenomenological Definition

Phenomenology, as the name implies, is the science (logos) of something that appears (phenomenon). Thus, every research or every work that discusses the way of the appearance of anything is a phenomenology. Phenomenology is the study of knowledge that comes from consciousness or how to understand an object or event by experiencing it consciously (Jylkkä & Railo, 2019).

Phenomenology is a philosophical approach that investigates human experience. Phenomenology means a method of thinking to acquire new knowledge or develop existing knowledge with logical, systematic and critical steps, not based on a priori / prejudice and not dogmatic (Andrade et al., 2023).

Phenomenology is a method that is used not only in philosophy but also in social sciences and education. For Brouwer, however, phenomenology is not a science but a way of looking at things. In phenomenology, there are no theories, hypotheses, or systems.

Phenomenology is part of qualitative methodology, but it contains historical value in its development. According to Hegel, phenomenology refers to experience as it arises in consciousness, he explained that phenomenology is the science of describing what a person receives, feels and knows in his immediate consciousness and experience. And what arises from consciousness is called a phenomenon.

Phenomenology is a research method that describes the meaning of life experience for several individuals, a concept or phenomenon, and explores the structure of consciousness in human experience (Neubauer et al., 2019b). Phenomenological research emphasizes the depiction of a point of view that is free from hypotheses or presumptions. In the realm of research methodology, phenomenology is

included in qualitative research that sees and hears in more detail the explanation and understanding of individual experiences of their experiences.

Phenomenological studies seek answers about the meaning of a phenomenon. Basically, there are two main things that are the focus of phenomenological research, namely:

- 1) Textural description: what the subject of the study experiences about a phenomenon. What is experienced is an objective aspect, data that is factual in nature, things that happen empirically.
- 2) Structural description: how the subject experiences and interprets his experience. This description contains a subjective aspect. This aspect concerns the opinions, assessments, feelings, expectations, and other subjective responses of the research subject related to his or her experience.

Thus, research questions in phenomenological studies include the following questions:

- 1) What is the subject's experience of a phenomenon/event?
- 2) How did he feel about the experience?
- 3) What meaning is obtained from the subject of the phenomenon?

Phenomenology has four characteristics: descriptive, reduction, essence and intentionality. As Tom Donoghue and Keith Punch Ed put it. " ... 'the phenomenological method', which consists of four key qualities (i.e. description, reduction, essence and intentionality) common to all types of phenomenology."

Several basic principles underlie the phenomenological approach, including:

- 1) Consciousness: phenomenology emphasizes the importance of subjective awareness and experience. Every phenomenon exists only to the extent that it appears in the consciousness of the individual.
- 2) Intentionality: One of the key concepts in phenomenology is "intentionality", which refers to the idea that consciousness is always about something. This means that we are always aware of something, be it an object, a person, an idea, or a feeling.
- 3) Epoché: It is the process by which the researcher or philosopher suspends or withholds all their judgments, assumptions and preconceptions about the world in order to be able to see phenomena as they are
- 4) Phenomenological reduction: It is an analytical process in which the essence of a particular phenomenon is identified, ignoring irrelevant or unimportant aspects.

By understanding these basic principles, one can approach phenomena with an open mind and without prejudice, allowing for a deeper and more authentic understanding of the human experience. The characteristics of the phenomenology are described as follows:

1) Description

The purpose of phenomenology is to describe a phenomenon, not to explain it. Phenomena includes anything that arises, such as emotions, thoughts, and human actions (Gallagher & Zahavi, 2020). Phenomenology means describing something to "the thing itself". Assumptions become unnecessary because the purpose is to investigate as it happens.

2) Reduction

Reduction is a process in which assumptions and prejudices about phenomena are postponed in bracketing to ensure that prejudices do not pollute the description of observations and that the description forms as the things themselves (Kite et al., 2022).

3) Essence

Essence is the core meaning of an individual's experience in a particular phenomenon as it is. The search for essence, essential themes, or essential relationships in phenomena, as they are, involves the exploration of phenomena by using the process of free imagination, intuition, and reflection to determine whether a particular characteristic is an important essence (Drew, 2020). For example, in the

case of the essence of learning, a phenomenologist will consider whether change and development are essential elements of the learning process.

4) Intentionality

According to Husserl, intentionality refers to the correlation between noema and noesis that directs the interpretation of experience. Noema is an objective statement of behaviour or experience as reality, while noesis is a subjective reflection (consciousness) of such an objective statement.

In this view, reality is what it is, and we have no idea of reality (objective statement). He calls intentionality the interrelationship between consciousness and reality. For example, we are worried about something, we cherish something, we are proud of something. We don't know "something", we know because we are aware of it and even aware of imaginary objects.

Phenomenological research focuses on something experienced in an individual's consciousness, referred to as intentionality. Intentionality describes the relationship between the process that occurs in consciousness and the object that is concerned with that process. In phenomenological terms, experience or consciousness is always an awareness of something; seeing is seeing something, remembering is remembering something, and judging is judging something. Something is an object of consciousness that has been stimulated by the perception of a "real" object or through the act of remembering or inventiveness. Intentionality is not only related to the purpose of human action but is also a basic character of the mind itself. The mind is never a thought itself, but it is always a thought over something. The mind always has an object. The same goes for consciousness. Intentionality is the directedness of consciousness. Intentionality is also the directness of action, which is an action aimed at one object.

Carpenter tries to provide structured steps that are easy to follow while still using Husserl's phenomenology. These steps include:

- 1) Determine the phenomenon to be researched and the role of the researcher in the research. Furthermore, the role of the researcher must also be clear. According to Husserl's philosophy of phenomenology, a researcher is someone who is able to transform data from participants into a pure and complete picture of the phenomenon.
- 2) Data collection: The data collection process includes selecting participants or samples and determining data collection methods. In general, phenomenology uses a purposeful sampling technique, where everyone who has experience with the phenomenon being studied has the right to become a participant. The data collection technique that is often used is interviews. The interviews can be open or semi-structured. The interview process is recorded and generally conducted more than once to complete or validate the necessary data.
- 3) Data treatment and analysis: Data analysis is preceded by a process of transcribing the results of the interview verbatim or as they are. Each transcript is identified, checked for accuracy, and analyzed. There are various analysis procedures that are considered suitable and appropriate, such as the Colaizzi method which includes reading transcripts repeatedly to be able to integrate with the data, extracting specific statements, formulating the meaning of specific statements, formulating themes and thematic clusters, formulating a complete description of the phenomenon and validating the complete description by providing a description to the participants.
- 4) Literature study, after the data analysis process is completed, the researcher conducts an in-depth literature study to find out the relationship and position of the research results to the existing research results.
- 5) Maintaining the correctness of research results, as well as quantitative research, qualitative research also requires validity and reliability. In qualitative research, in general, validity and reliability are known as credibility, audibility, and fittingness.

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- 6) Ethical considerations, ethical considerations that must be considered include providing information about the nature of the research, voluntary participation, permission to record interviews, confidentiality of participant identities both in recordings, transcripts, and in full descriptions.

Moustakas identified five stages in phenomenological data analysis, as follows:

- a) List the expressions of the participant's answers or responses by delaying the researcher's prejudice (bracketing) to allow the expressions to appear as they are. Each expression of the participant's life experience is treated equally (horizontalization).
- b) Reduction and elimination of expressions These expressions refer to the question: whether the expression is the essence of the participant experience and whether the expressions can be grouped to be labeled and themed. Expressions of vague expressions, repetition and overlap are reduced and eliminated. Then, meaningful expressions are labeled and themes.
- c) Create clusters and write themes for expressions that are consistent, unchanged and show similarities. The clustering and labelling of these expressions are the core themes of the participants' life experiences.
- d) Validate the expressions and label the expressions and themes by (1) whether the expression is explicitly present in the interview transcript or participant's diary; (2) if the expressions are not explicit, whether they "work together without conflict or compatible". If it is not compatible and explicit with the participant's life experience, then these expressions are discarded.
- e) Create an Individual Textural Description (ITD). ITD is made by presenting validated expressions in accordance with the themes complemented by verbatim quotes, interview results and/or participant diaries.

Phenomenology as a Theoretical Basis for Qualitative Methods

a. Phenomenological Differences with Other Qualitative Methods

Although phenomenology is one approach in qualitative research, it has unique characteristics that set it apart from other qualitative methods:

- 1) Focus on Subjective Experience: Phenomenology emphasizes a deep understanding of how individuals experience and understand the world around them.
- 2) Suspension of Prejudice: Through the process of "epoché" phenomenology requires researchers to suspend their assumptions and prejudices in order to see phenomena as they are.
- 3) The Quest for Essence: The main goal of phenomenology is to discover the essence or basic meaning of an experience.

b. Phenomenological Research Process

In applying phenomenology as a research method, there are several specific steps that must be followed:

- 1) Phenomena Selection: The researcher must choose a specific phenomenon that he or she wants to understand from an individual's perspective.
- 2) Data Collection: Data is typically collected through in-depth interviews, observations, or personal reflections.
- 3) Data Analysis: Researchers look for themes or patterns that emerge from the data to find the essence of the experience.
- 4) Presentation of Findings: The results of the analysis are then presented in a descriptive form, emphasizing the meaning and essence of the experience

c. Advantages and Disadvantages of Phenomenology in Qualitative Research Excess:

- 1) Depth of Understanding: Phenomenology allows researchers to gain a deep and rich understanding of an individual's experience.

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- 2) Flexibility: Not bound by rigid structures or methods, allowing researchers to explore phenomena from various perspectives.
 - 3) Uncovering Hidden Meanings: Can uncover meanings and perceptions that may not be accessible through other research methods.

Deficiency:

- 1) Time and Energy: The process of interviewing and analyzing data in phenomenological research can be very time-consuming and requires a lot of energy.
- 2) Subjectivity: Due to the focus on subjective experience, research results may be highly individualistic and may be difficult to generalize.
- 3) Specific Skills: Requires specific skills in interviews and data analysis to ensure integrity and depth of understanding.

In this regard, we have explored how phenomenology serves as a theoretical foundation in qualitative research, as well as the advantages and disadvantages of this approach. Phenomenology offers a unique way to understand the human experience, making it a valuable tool in various fields of research.

d. Phenomenological Methods as a Theoretical Basis for Qualitative Methods

a) According to research design, John W. Creswell

John W. Creswell is one of the leading figures in qualitative research. In his work, he discusses various approaches to qualitative methods, including phenomenology. The following is an explanation of the phenomenological method as the theoretical basis of the qualitative method according to John W. Creswell:

- 1) Phenomenology Definition: According to Creswell, phenomenology is a research approach that focuses on the shared experience by several individuals regarding a particular concept or phenomenon. The goal is to dig deeper into meaning and gain a more essential understanding of the experience.
- 2) The Importance of Going Back to Experience: Creswell emphasizes the importance of "going back to things themselves". Researchers should approach the phenomenon with an open mind, free from previous assumptions, and strive to understand the essence of the experience.
- 3) Research Process: Creswell suggests that researchers collect data through in-depth interviews. In this interview, participants were asked to describe their experiences regarding the phenomenon being studied. After the data was collected, the researcher then analyzed and identified the themes or patterns that emerged from the participants' stories.
- 4) Epoché: Just like some other phenomenologists, Creswell also emphasizes the importance of "epoché" or suspension of judgment. Researchers must postpone or hold back all previous judgments and assumptions about the phenomenon being studied in order to understand it purely.
- 5) Theme Development: After collecting and analyzing the data, the researcher then develops themes that emerge from the data. These themes should reflect the essence of the experiences told by the participants.
- 6) Essential Description: The end of phenomenological research is an essential description of the phenomenon being studied. This description reflects the profound meaning of the experience and provides a deeper understanding of the phenomenon.

In Creswell's view, phenomenology is one of the approaches in qualitative research that allows researchers to explore and understand the meaning of individual experiences. He sees phenomenology as a powerful tool to explore meaning and a deeper understanding of the human social world.

b) Phenomenological Methods as a Theoretical Basis for Qualitative Methods according to Prof. Lexy J Moleong's Qualitative Research Methodology Book

Prof. Lexy J. Moleong is a well-known expert in the field of qualitative research methodology in Indonesia. In his book entitled "Qualitative Research Methodology", he provides an in-depth explanation of various approaches in qualitative research, including phenomenology. The following is an explanation of the phenomenological method as the theoretical basis of the qualitative method according to Prof. Lexy J. Moleong:

- 1) **Definition of Phenomenology:** According to Moleong, phenomenology is the study of phenomena, that is, about what appears in human consciousness. These phenomena can be events, situations, experiences, or concepts experienced by individuals.
- 2) **Phenomenological Meaning:** In a phenomenological approach, what matters is how individuals give meaning to the experiences they experience. Phenomenology aims to reveal this meaning in depth.
- 3) **Basic Approach:** Moleong emphasizes that in phenomenology, the researcher must return to "the thing itself", meaning that the researcher must focus on the phenomenon
- 4) **Research Process:** Data in phenomenological research are obtained through in-depth interviews, observations, and documentation. In-depth interviews are typically used to delve into an individual's subjective experience regarding the phenomenon being studied.
- 5) **Data Analysis:** Once the data is collected, the next step is data analysis. In phenomenology, data analysis is carried out by identifying the essence of the experiences told by participants. From this essence, the researcher then develops a theme or pattern that emerges from the data.
- 6) **Research Results:** The results of phenomenological research are in-depth descriptions of the phenomena being studied. This description reflects the individual's subjective meaning and understanding of the phenomenon.

In Prof. Lexy J. Moleong's view, phenomenology is the right approach to explore and understand the subjective experiences of individuals. He emphasized the importance of an empathetic and value-free approach in conducting phenomenological research, so that researchers can understand phenomena according to the participant's perspective.

c) Phenomenological methods as the theoretical basis of qualitative methods according to the book Qualitative Research Methodology in his book Educational Research Methods Quantitative, Qualitative and R&D Approaches Prof. Dr. Sugiyono

Prof. Dr. Sugiyono is an educational figure in Indonesia who is known for his books on research methodology, especially in the context of education. In his book "Educational Research Methods Quantitative, Qualitative and R&D Approaches", Sugiyono discusses various research methods, including phenomenology in a qualitative context. The following is an explanation of the phenomenological method as the theoretical basis of the qualitative method according to Prof. Dr. Sugiyono:

- 1) **Definition of Phenomenology:** Sugiyono defines phenomenology as the study that focuses on awareness of certain phenomena experienced by the subject. The goal is to get an in-depth description of the phenomenon based on the subject's perspective.
 - 2) **Research Focus:** In phenomenological research, the focus is on the subjective life experiences of the individual. Sugiyono emphasized the importance of understanding how subjects perceive, interpret, and give meaning to the phenomena they experience.
 - 3) **Data Collection Process:** Data is obtained through in-depth interviews, observations, and field notes. In the interview, the researcher asked the subjects about their experiences related to the phenomenon being studied to get an in-depth description.
 - 4) **Data Analysis:** Once the data is collected, the next process is data analysis. Sugiyono suggested data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. During the analysis process,
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researchers must continuously refer back to the original data to ensure their interpretation is accurate.

- 5) Research Outcomes: The results of phenomenological research are in-depth descriptions of the phenomena being studied from the subject's perspective. This description aims to uncover the essence of the subject's experience.

D. Application of Phenomenology in Qualitative Research

a. Case Study: Application of Phenomenology in Educational Research

Dissertation of Mrs. Eneng Humaero Examiner Prof. Dr. Ahmad Thib Raya, MA., UIN Jakarta. The dissertation presented by Eneng Humeeroh is Policy Analysis of Islamic Religious Education in Public Universities, one of the examiners is Prof. Dr. Ahmad Thib Raya, MA, at UIN Jakarta

In his research on Islamic Religious Education Policy in Public Universities, Promovenda Eneng Humaeroh saw that. The implementation of PAI in public universities has a deep substance, but its implementation is encouraged to meet the mandatory requirements, and it is mandatory to pass. Second, as a compulsory course, PAI cannot be replaced, but the fact is that there are campuses that do not implement it. Third, the learning material is still textual, and the learning model is classic. Fourth, the a lack of lecturers teaching PAI courses who have qualifications in accordance with applicable regulations. Fifth, PAI has not been able to integrate its important role in the PTU curriculum.

This research aims to: First analyze to find factors that are obstacles to the implementation of the policy so that the perception of the implementation of Islamic religious education is not formalistic but can become the foundation of character education through substantial learning (Abbas et al., 2021). Second, finding new views or necessary changes related to PAI policies technically and operationally

Data collection was obtained by means of observation, interviews, and documentation using data sources from the Director of PAI of the Ministry of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia and two leaders of public universities, plus two additional pieces of information.

The findings obtained in this study are that the management of Islamic religious education is not optimal, because it is caused by the non-communication of Government Regulation Number 55 of 2007 so that it has an impact on the minimal implications of PAI policies in public universities and causes the birth of policies that can be contradictory to each other.

Based on these findings, a conclusion from two theories is presented that reveals the need to improve the implementation of PAI regulations in the future.

b. Case Study: Application of Phenomenology in Psychological Research

1) HIV Sufferers

In the field of psychology, phenomenology is often used to understand an individual's deep experiences, such as dealing with trauma, chronic illness, or major life changes. For example, research may focus on the experiences of individuals who have recently been diagnosed with HIV. Through in-depth interviews, researchers were able to understand how the diagnosis affected individuals' perceptions of life, death, relationships, and themselves.

This research is qualitative research with a phenomenological perspective. The study of phenomenology is a viewpoint that focuses on individual experiences and interpretations of the world. Phenomenology is also interpreted as a method of finding psychological meanings that form symptoms through investigation and analysis of examples of symptoms experienced by participants.

The focus of this research is to understand and describe the psychological dynamics of life experiences for people with HIV/AIDS. The psychological dynamics in question are the period before being diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, the period at the time of diagnosis, the post-diagnosis period, and the period when experiencing discrimination from the surrounding environment.

Participants in this study are people with HIV/AIDS who are selected based on criteria that have been determined according to the purpose of the study. These criteria are: (1) people with HIV/AIDS, (2) in the early adulthood category, and (3) individuals who are willing to be the subject of the study

The three participants in this study experienced different treatments in the process of raising their families. According to Diana Baumrind, there are several patterns or styles of parenting in the family, namely authoritarian parenting, authoritative parenting, neglectful parenting, and pampering parenting. The three participants each experienced authoritarian parenting patterns, neglectful parenting patterns, and taxing parenting patterns in childhood (Phillips et al., 2017).

The origin of the disease in these three participants was also different. Some contracted HIV/AIDS from their spouse (husband), who was indeed a drug addict. Meanwhile, the other participant contracted HIV/AIDS because he used drugs. It is well known that the transmission of this disease can occur through syringes (drugs or when injecting drugs using non-sterile needles), sexual intercourse, and through breast milk

The three participants also experienced stigma and discrimination in their surroundings differently. The first person (A) experienced unpleasant treatment from his extended family. A's extended family does not want to visit or interact with A's family.

The second participant (B) experienced almost similar treatment. In the family, B's cutlery is separated from his family. Not only the family but the work environment B (health centre) also does the same. There were several colleagues who yelled and scolded him while carrying out his work.

The third participant (C) experienced different stigma and discrimination. She had to find out that her son was also infected with HIV/AIDS until he died. His psychological burden is getting heavier because he also no longer has physical strength because he has to lie down because of his pain.

The burden of life from psychological pressure and worsening physical conditions made these three participants have different views on the meaning of life

2) Hospital Patients and Nurses.

To give a more real picture, I will try to present an example of research entitled "The Essential Structure of a Caring Interaction: Doing Phenomenology" conducted by Doris J. Riemen (in Creswell, 1998:271-295). This study tries to understand the phenomenon of patient care carried out by nurses in hospitals. In the introduction, the researcher explained the meaning of treatment and explained that there is still a lack of research on treatment.

In problem identification/problem statement, the researcher asks the main question in his research: From the patient's point of view, what is the important structure of the nurse-patient care interaction? Descriptively, he also explained the purpose of this researcher. In addition, the researcher also provides justification for the importance of research in this field, which is supported by several testimonials.

In the theoretical review, the researcher pointed out several relevant phenomenological principles, namely Martin Buber's views on the concept of I-thou relationship and I-it relationship; and Gabriel Marcel on the concept of intersubjectivity. In this section, it is also explained how the phenomena that will be studied in the lens of phenomenology.

In the methodology section, the researcher explained the key concepts in his research. Next, he submitted a review of relevant previous research results. Data collection was carried out by conducting interviews with the recorded patients and by asking permission in advance from the patient concerned. At this time, patients are asked: (1) to describe the experience of interaction with a particular nurse that is seen as an "act of care"; (2) to explain how the patient feels in the interaction;

(3) to describe the experience of interaction with a particular nurse that is seen as "not an act of care"; (4) explain how the patient feels in the interaction; (5) explain as fully as possible what is being discussed, without stopping. In this section, the stages of data analysis using the methodology developed by Colaizzi are also explained.

Example: One of Statements 9-13 comes from the following transcription: "The situation I found was, the nurse listened and showed great interest. It shows concern for my illness, as well as for me as a human being and an individual. He sat on the edge of my bed, which I thought was good. I love that kind of closeness. He talked to me, he held my hand, and he asked me a number of questions, which really let me know that he was really listening to me. There's a difference between ringing something and listening, and when I talk to him, he'll look me straight in the face. He seemed very understanding. He didn't sympathize with me, but I could feel empathy between the two of us, holding my hand and sitting on the edge of the bed. He even expressed some of his own insecurities."

The following phrases from the transcription are some duplications of the important statements from the previous transcription and are therefore not repeated in the final list of important statements: listened to duplication of number 1 (listened – really listened); like me as a human being is a duplicate of the number 8; The empathy between the two of us is a duplicate of number 2 (empathetic).

The data of this study is then shown to the patients who are informants to be asked for their opinions, whether it is in accordance with the reality they are experiencing or not. In the discussion section, the researcher reflects by relating the results of the research findings to phenomenological principles. In the conclusion and implications section, the researcher proposes conclusions and implications for nursing education, nursing research, nursing practice, and nursing theory.

Linking the Findings to Hypotheses: Revisit the hypotheses or research questions posed earlier in the study. For each key result, clarify whether it supports or refutes the hypotheses.

- 1) If the study hypothesizes that "phenomenology provides deeper insights into subjective experiences," and the results confirm this through participant narratives, explicitly state that the hypothesis is supported by the data.
- 2) If the hypothesis suggests "Phenomenology is not suitable for certain types of data analysis," but the findings contradict this, discuss how the data refutes the hypothesis and why.

Explanation of the Results: After presenting the findings, explain why the data supports or challenges the hypothesis. For instance, if a certain phenomenological concept resonated strongly with participants, explain how this finding aligns with or diverges from existing theories or previous studies.

Discussion of Limitations and Variances: Address any limitations of the results in relation to the hypothesis. If some data did not fully support the hypothesis, offer possible reasons such as methodological constraints or context-specific factors.

Broader Implications: Relate your findings to the broader literature and the theoretical framework. Highlight how your results contribute to or challenge existing knowledge in the field.

CONCLUSION

From the discussion in this paper, several important points can be concluded: **Basic Concepts:** Phenomenology focuses on subjective experiences and how individuals understand and give meaning to those experiences. Key concepts such as "epoché", "intentionality", and "phenomenological reduction" are at the core of this approach. **Philosophers' Contributions:** Philosophers such as Edmund Husserl, Martin Heidegger, and Jean-Paul Sartre have made significant contributions to the development of phenomenology, providing a theoretical and methodological framework for understanding the human experience. **Application in Qualitative Research:** Phenomenology has been

applied in various fields of research, including psychology, education, sociology, and more. Through this approach, researchers can delve into individual experiences and understand the underlying meaning. Advantages and Challenges: While phenomenology offers a unique depth of understanding, this approach also comes with certain challenges, such as the need for specialized training in interviews and data analysis.

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