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EDITORIAL:

Quest for Change: Research and Social Concerns

It is my pleasure to present this issue of the Info Journal. The issue provides a smorgasbord of eight articles which are empirical—quantitative and qualitative—and theoretical in nature. As the readership of this journal embraces international communities, the studies in this article represent international perspectives. Three book-reviews provide critical insights on recent publications for interested readers. As a new feature, the research (theses and dissertation) titles of the graduates for the 2019-2020 school year of Adventist International Institute (AIIS) are listed.

Research in social sciences has come a long way since my first undergraduate research course years ago. Later, in the research activities at my graduate studies, the paradigm wars were part of the research literature and personal research experience. Those latter years of the 20th century were times when researchers were caught in the struggle of growth pain, especially as the qualitative paradigm emerged into the research realm in social sciences.

Fast forward to this second decade of the 21st century, the present times. Qualitative research has become a popular research paradigm in social sciences even as quantitative research continues its popularity and use. We seem to have arrived in an era when research endeavors are increasingly focused on social action. In other words, research studies seem to focus on practices that can change the social realities around us. Those in academe are looked up to for generating research that makes a difference. This issue of the journal is an example of this trend.

Considering the articles by types, theoretical first, Sigauke and Swansi elucidates the much-needed guidance on the coding process in Grounded Theory for beginning researchers. Using Saldaña's model, these researchers have cleverly presented an extraction of the coding and analysis heuristics that can be easily followed by a budding grounded theory researcher. Safary presents step-by-step procedures to carry out an innovative qualitative procedure of meta-synthesis. He suggests that a well-carried out qualitative meta-synthesis can be considered as a research design on its own, and can help to generate theories or strengthen existing theories. Aja et al. present an argument against the social

marketing strategies for condoms in the religious-cultural context of sub-Saharan Africa. Resources used for the marketing condoms are suggested to be channeled for basic needs which when lacking results in high-risk sexual behaviors.

Two quantitative research studies shed light on themes of knowledge management (KM) and academic dishonesty. Kisumano and Masinda's study on KM takes the reader to the healthcare centers in the Republic of Congo. The predictors of KM were found to be structural readiness and knowledge management processes. Thomas' study probes the relationship between academic dishonesty and religious worldview in a faith-based University in Thailand. The result—the stronger the students' religious worldview position, the lesser the appeal to academic dishonesty—is good news to all.

Three qualitative studies are presented by Superable et al., Candelario-Aplaon et al., and Thang and Sibanda. The first two studies were conducted in the Philippines. The former of these two is a phenomenological study that focuses on senior citizens' reactions to digital communication. Face-to-face communication is seen as the preferred communication modality of senior citizens. The latter study is an appreciative inquiry of an extension program in three schools. This study not only presents the best features of this extension program but also provides a well-conducted appreciative inquiry for interested researchers. The third qualitative study on cooperative learning focuses on its implementation in the Myanmar context. The study points to the benefits of using cooperative learning in the tertiary level classrooms in Myanmar.

The authors of this issue have researched fervently and thoroughly. I invite you to read intensely and critically. You may find ideas for your next social action.

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