

Summaries

Taste-differentiation in the reading of books

by Gerbert L.M. Kraaykamp

In this article we compare two ways of studying social inequality in bookreading. Many studies in this field concentrate on questions of time spent on reading and the *number* of books read. We suggest a new line of research: social inequality in the reading of different *bookgenres*, in particular the complexity of these genres. In our explanatory model we use a theory on cultural competence, a theory on social approval and restrictions of time and money. Our analysis showed little predictive power for the number of books read. Concerning the bookgenres, however, a reasonable prediction was achieved. Therefore, we conclude that complexity of genres is a promising line of research in the study on inequality of readingbehavior.

Answering questions in survey-interviews; the effect of the respondent's mood

by J.H. Wendt and W. Dijkstra

Talking about pleasant or unpleasant experiences in a survey-interview, may affect the respondent's mood; e.g. if the respondent is unhappy about his work situation, answering questions about this topic may induce an unpleasant mood. On the other hand, if the respondent is requested to answer difficult questions with an evaluative component, he may use his mood as a heuristic instrument to answer such questions. If the respondent is in a bad mood he tends to give more negative evaluations. Hence, answers to subsequent questions in a survey-interview may become correlated due to mood effects, rather than because of a 'real' relation between variables.

These hypotheses were tested, using data from a large survey among young adults in the Netherlands about work situation, partner relation, etc. During the interview, the respondent's mood was measured on two different moments. The hypotheses about the expected effects were confirmed. It is recommended however to test mood effects using a more strong research design than the present one.

Research of the effects of crime prevention; theory and methodology

by J. Geerlof and J. Naafs

Crime prevention is a major topic in many research projects. This article focuses on the theory and methodology of this type of research. After a specification of the term crime prevention, the backgrounds of the policy of crime prevention and the theoretical thoughts behind these policies are given. The policy use of theoretical ideas on which theo-

ries as the 'social control' theory and the 'life style exposure' theory are based is doubted by several authors.

Besides 'theoretical' deficiencies it is difficult to judge the effects of measures taken in the different crime prevention projects. The majority of the projects is not accompanied by thorough evaluation research. The article gives a number of recommendations to improve the quality and usefulness of the evaluation research.