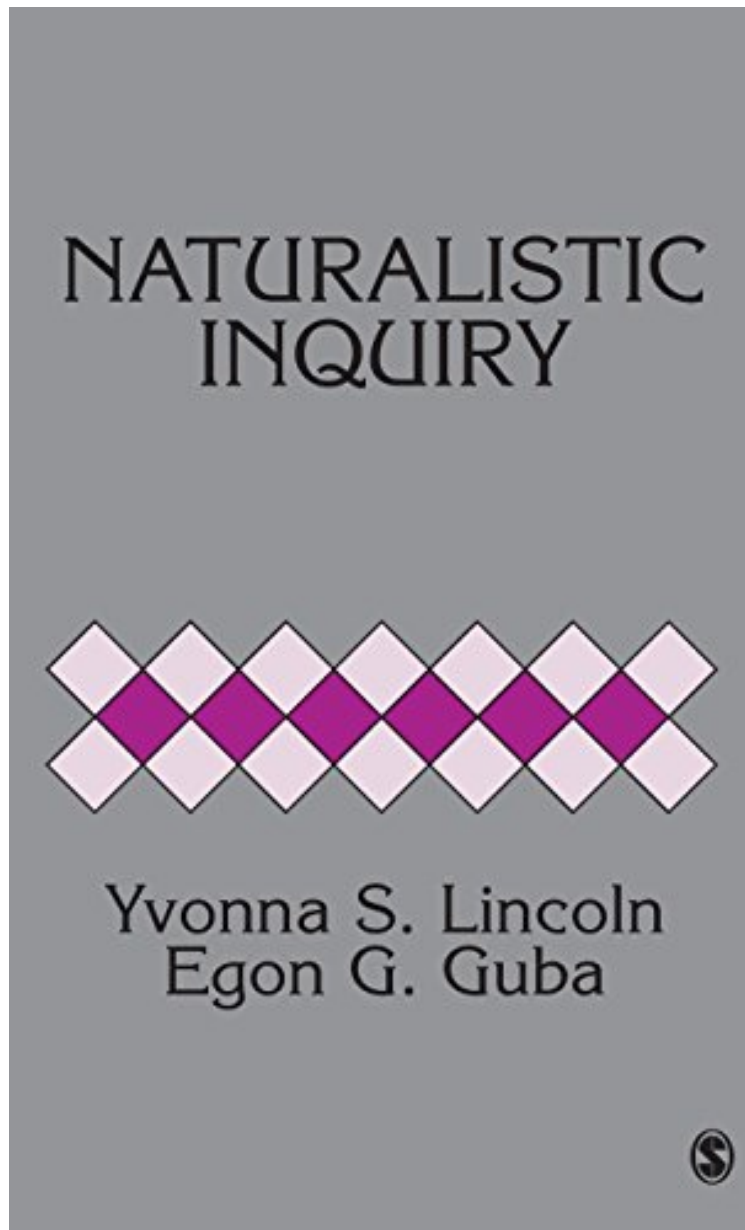


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## Naturalistic Inquiry

*Yvonna S. Lincoln, Egon Guba*  
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Really hard to understand, but a comprehensive guide to ontological and epistemological world of research. Good for references.  
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By Jason  
Everything after is ripping Lincoln off.

Naturalistic Inquiry provides social scientists with a basic but comprehensive rationale for non-positivistic approaches to research. It confronts the basic premise underlying the scientific tradition that all questions can be answered by employing empirical, testable, replicable research techniques. The authors maintain that there are scientific facts that existing paradigms cannot explain, and argue against traditional positivistic inquiry. They suggest an alternative approach supporting the use of the naturalistic paradigm.

"An interesting, well written, fascinating critique of positivism. I wish this would be sufficient to put the nails in the coffin of positivism once and for all."--Ian I. Mitroff  
"This book provides a clear discussion of the essential elements of positivism and post-positivism. It also provides a useful set of guidelines for conducting research within the framework of naturalism. Lincoln and Guba reveal the chinks in the armor of conventional methodological ideas. Their writing draws on a vast array of examples and provides a new vocabulary for thinking about method."--Shulamit Reinharz  
"This book will interest graduate students and educational researchers as well as social scientists struggling with qualitative and quantitative methodologies. A breath of fresh air."--Choice  
"Overall, this volume serves as a good introductory text in naturalistic inquiry and field research courses."--International Journal of Intercultural Relations  
"The book itself is a good illustration of our inclination towards and our need of more general descriptions...If one wants to inform oneself about the paradigmatic discussion and the development of research methodology within the area of studies of social fields, it is a very interesting book."--Instructional Science  
"An interesting, well written, fascinating critique of positivism. I wish this would be sufficient to put the nails in the coffin of positivism once and for all." (Ian I. Mitroff)  
"This book provides a clear discussion of the essential elements of positivism and post-positivism. It also provides a useful set of guidelines for conducting research within the framework of naturalism. Lincoln and Guba reveal the chinks in the armor of conventional methodological ideas. Their writing draws on a vast array of examples and provides a new vocabulary for thinking about method." (Shulamit Reinharz)  
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About the Author  
Yvonna S. Lincoln is Professor of Higher Education and Educational Administration at Texas A M University. She is author, coauthor, or editor of such books as *Naturalistic Inquiry* and *Fourth Generation Evaluation* (both with Egon G. Guba), and *Organizational Theory and Inquiry*. Vice President of Division J (Postsecondary Education) of the American Educational Research Association, Dr. Lincoln formerly served as president of the American Evaluation Association and is the recipient of many prestigious awards. Dr. Lincoln coedited, with Dr. Denzin, the *Handbook of Qualitative Research*. (Retired)