University of Balochistan
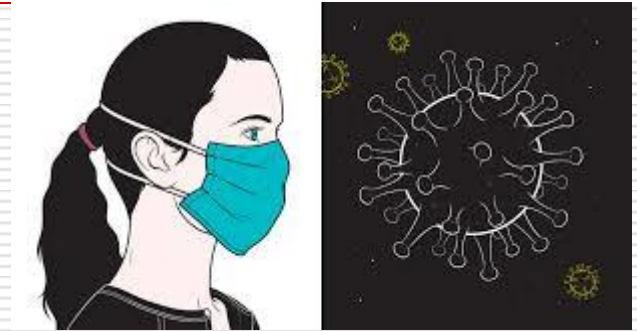# Department of Social Work
Social Research

MA Social Work,
by:
Dr. Mumtaz Ali Baloch
Chairperson,
Associate Professor, Department of Social Work,
University of Balochistan, Quetta

University of Balochistan, Quetta

Outline

☐ Types of research

   (Exploratory, Descriptive and Explanatory research)

Exploratory research

By: Dr. Mumtaz A. Baloch

Types of research

Types	Purpose	
Exploratory	What?	A new idea, a little known about something
Descriptive	How?	Highly developed idea about a phenomena want describe in depth
Explanatory	Why?	(causal relationship)

Becoming familiar with basic facts, a hypothesis, generate new idea/s, an innovation

Example: What kills the malaria parasite? What are the influencing factors causing poverty?

What is the relationship between poverty and illiteracy?

Exploratory Research	Descriptive Research	Causal Research
• **Ambiguous problems**	• **Aware of the problem**	• **Problem clearly define**
• *«Our sales are declining... why»*	• *«Who is buying our products?»*	• *«Will buyers purchase more if we change the website?»*

Exploratory Research

- **Usually conducted during the initial stage of the research process**

- **Purposes**
  - To narrow the scope of the research topic, and
  - To transform ambiguous problems into well-defined ones
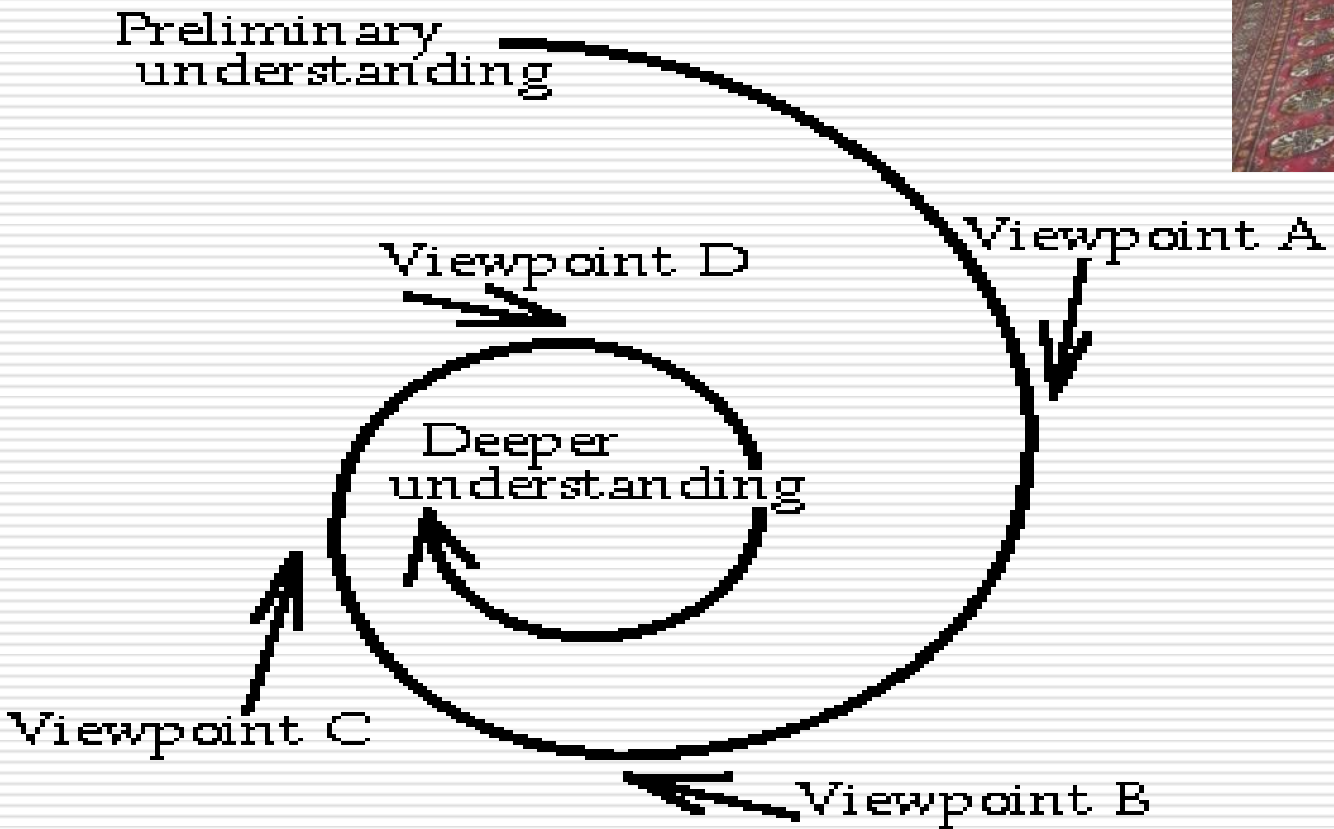
Preliminary
understanding

Viewpoint D

Viewpoint A

Deeper
understanding

Viewpoint C

Viewpoint B

Exploratory research

☐ Exploratory research gathers preliminary information that will help to define the problem and suggest a hypothesis.

Example:

☐ What are economic impacts of the trainings attended by the widows?

☐ Exploratory research often relies on secondary research, such as, **reviewing a valuable literature** or data; **qualitative approaches**; and **informal discussions with respondents**; more **formal discussions** through **in-depth interviews, focus group discussions**, **case studies**; and projective/pilot studies

Types of research

Types	Purpose	
Descriptive	How?	Highly developed idea about a phenomena want describe in depth

Drinking water in Jaffarabd district

Descriptive Research

What is descriptive research?

- is the most widely-used research design as indicated by the theses, dissertations and research reports of institutions. Its common means of obtaining information include the use of the questionnaire, personal interviews with the aid of study guide or interview schedule, and observation, either participatory or not.

Descriptive Research

- Cross-sectional Studies
  - Data collected at a single period in time from a cross-sectional sample of the unit of interest that is disbanded after the data collection
- Longitudinal Studies
  - Repeated measurements taken over a long period of time from a panel group or sample of the unit that is maintained for future measurements

Descriptive Research

Descriptive Research Method

Developmental studies

Cross-sectional research

Surveys

Correlational studies

Observation

Content Analysis

More-structured

Longitudinal research

Descriptive Research (How?)

Examples:

How the Awaran/Ziarat district earthquake affected the socioeconomic conditions of people? (reasons, factors)

How people managed to help themselves in Awaran district?

How the "extreme poverty" affected the health of children in Balochistan?

"kids, below the age of ten, had sold their kidneys because of poverty in Balochistan" (Akber, 2009); Baloch, 2011.

Regression coefficients of variables influencing the dropout of PDC

Variables	Description	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)		15.802	3.154		5.011	.000
X_1. Household head's age	Scale data	-.024	.045	-.134	-.543	.593
X_2. Household head's education status	1 if literate; 0 if illiterate	2.565	.959	.551	2.674	.014
X_3. Household head's main occupation	1 if daily wages; 0 if on job	-2.302	1.086	-.505	-2.119	.046
X_6. Household size	Number	-2.226E-6	.000	-.209	-.850	.405
X_4. Type of family	1 if single 0 if joint	1.204	.844	.244	1.426	.169
X_7. Number earners in household	Number	-2.068	1.697	-.269	-1.219	.237
X_3. Annual Income of household	Number	3.819	1.423	5.867	2.684	.014
X_5. Number of dependents	Number	-3.602	1.404	-5.515	-2.565	.018
X_8. Distance from home to school in km	Number of Km	-.286	.116	-.558	-2.475	.022
X_9. Attitudinal difference	1 if friendly; 0 if not.	-3.533	.805	-.759	-4.389	.000
X_{10}. Scholarship	1 if availed; 0 if not.	1.651	1.030	.373	1.604	.124
X_{11}. Satisfaction with school	1 if parents and students satisfied; 0 if not satisfied.	-.780	.811	-.152	-.961	.347

Field survey, 2016

Factors causing HBV/HCV infection in Jaffarabad, Balochistan

Variables	Description	Pearson Correlation	Significance
X_1 Unscreened blood	1 if had blood transfusion; 0 if otherwise	.208**	.003
X_2 Unawareness about risk factors of Hepatitis B/C infections	1 if aware; 0 if otherwise	.170*	.016
X_3 Injected used syringes at clinics/hospitals	1 if injected used syringes; 0 if otherwise	.201**	.004
X_4 Undergone surgery	1 if undergone surgery; 0 if otherwise	.175*	.013
X_5 Cupping	1 if done cupping; 0 if otherwise	.184**	.009
X_6 Spouse infected with Hepatitis B/C	1 if infected, 0 if otherwise	.151*	.033

Ahmed and Baloch, 2018

Social Research
By: Dr. Mumtaz

16

Types of research

Cause Effect

Types	Purpose	
Explanatory	Why?	(causal relationship)
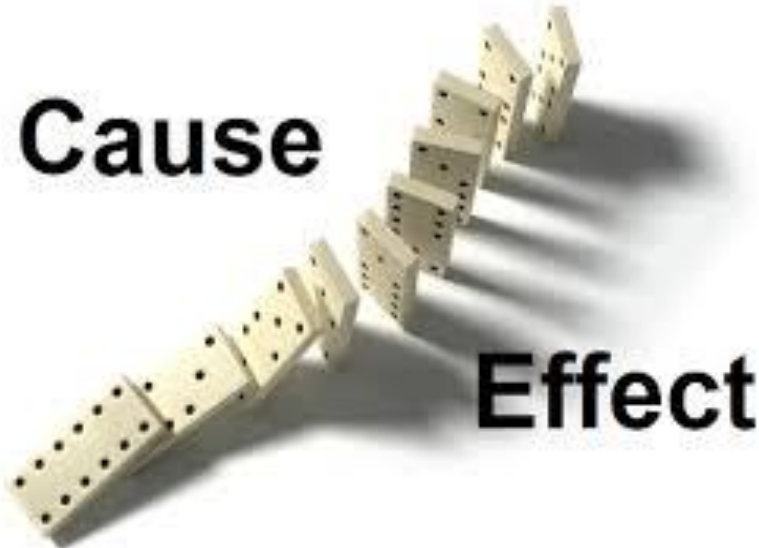
AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY

Explanatory research

Explanatory Research (Why)

Known facts but when you want to explain the phenomena in depth.

☐ Why poverty in Balochistan (rich in minerals and natural resources)?

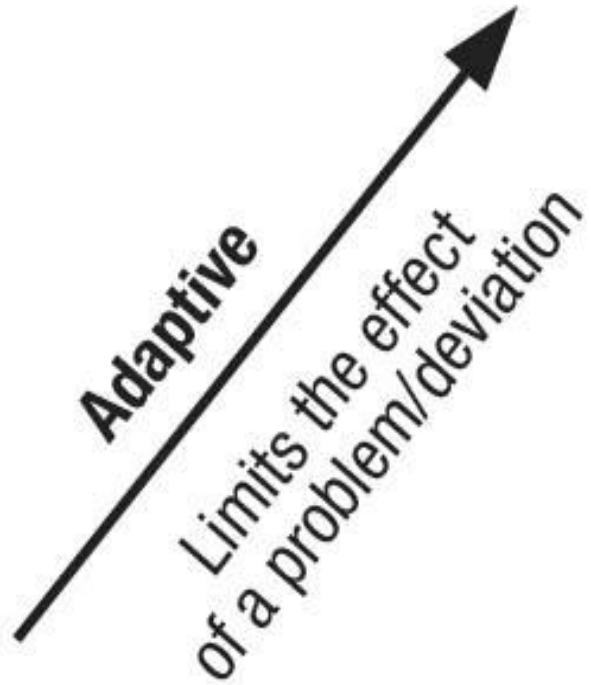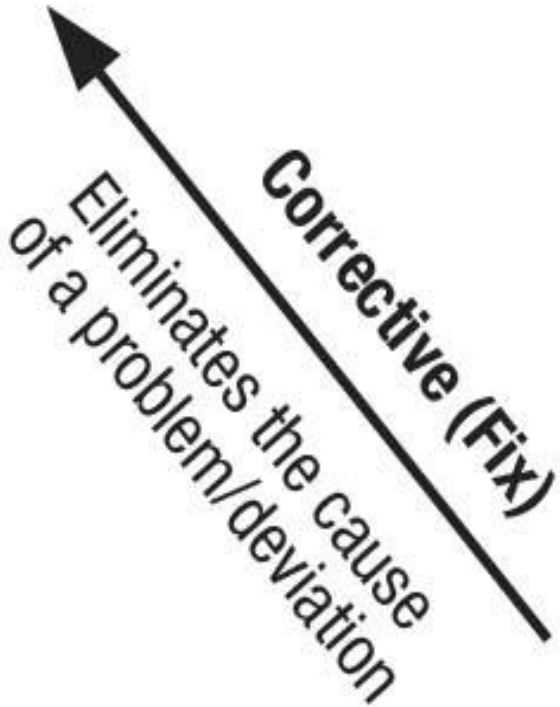☐ Why most of the developing countries could not achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

Problem

Cause
Events/conditions
that led to problem

→

Effect
Symptoms that provide
evidence of problem

Corrective (Fix)
Eliminates the cause
of a problem/deviation

Adaptive
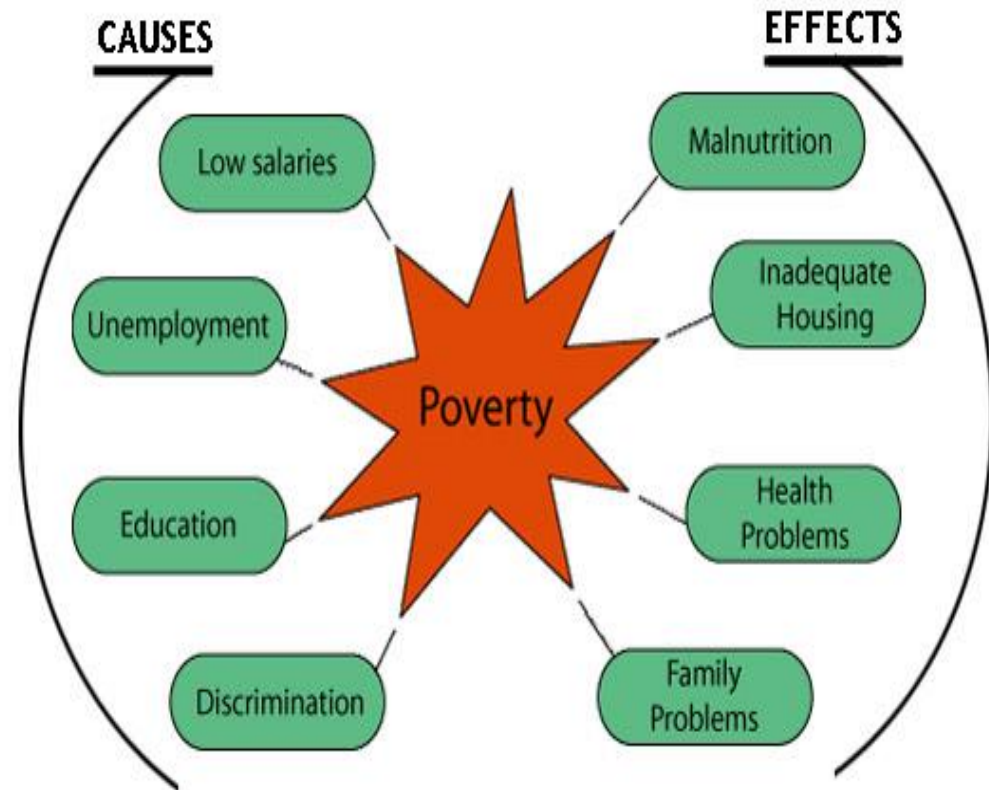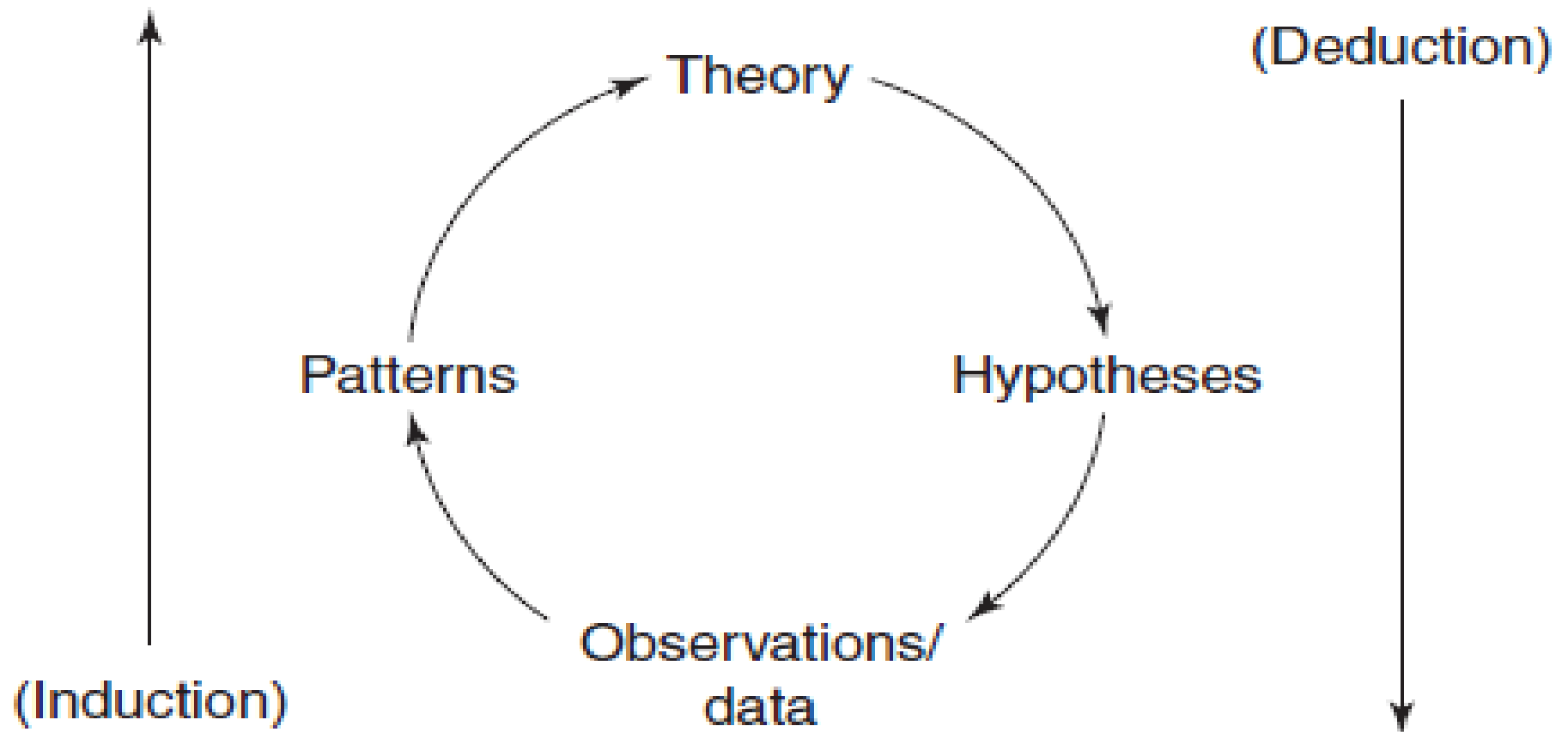Limits the effect
of a problem/deviation

Action

Cause and Effect

Causation: (Relationship of Variable)

- ☐ The process of one event causing or producing another event.

- ☐ To understand a phenomena, a researcher needs to understand and find out a relationship between cause and effect.

The wheel of research

Example:

- ☐ Poverty causes poor health condition.
- ☐ Ignorance causes crime.
- ☐ Water increases crop yield.
- ☐ Rain (not scanty) improves the

lives stock sector in Balochistan.

Questions and Suggestions

Thank you