SUMMARY OF ARTICLE

Reference: Article / Student SK

STRAUSS, A. & CORBIN, J. (1998). SELECTIVE CODING. IN BASICS OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH TECHNIQUES (P. 143-163). THOUSAND OAKS: SAGE PUBLICATIONS.

Main topic

Selective coding: process of generating **theory > explanation**

Integration: data becomes theory > rising above the exact words / statements

Range of **variability**

Strengths / weaknesses

Difficult / complex

e.g. Hard to move to abstractions / explanatory whole, categorizing large amounts of data, when to let go

Leveraging variability

Conclusions / Suggestions / Recommendations

Present a set of **interrelated concepts > interpreted abstractions** constructed from data (vs. descriptions)

- Multiple ways of expressing; **explanatory** form; Implications of the theoretical backdrop
- Applicable to **all cases**

Steps of integration:

1) Identification of a central / **core category**: main theme
   - Pulling all categories together, forms an explanatory whole
   - Accounting variation
   - Facilitative techniques: moving **from description to conceptualization ('what is going on')**
     - Identifying a story line / storyline memo (general sense)
     - Diagrams (conceptualization)
     - Sorting of memos (categories)
       - Literature, similar concepts > usually don't fit with the data at hand, hinders finding out new perspectives

2) **Refining** theory
   - Internal **consistency** and logic (no inconsistencies; review core category, properties & data)
   - **Filling in** poorly developed categories (more data and/or reviewing data; theoretical **saturation**)
   - **Trimming** theory (dropping of extraneous concepts that **don't contribute** to understanding)
   - **Validating** the theoretical scheme (comparison with data, respondent review)
   - Unfitting categories & Building **variation**

MY THOUGHTS

Reference: Article / Student (SK)

Key learnings

Techniques for and building understanding of the process of **theory building**

Opinions, thoughts, interesting issues

Important to be mindful when reviewing literature to aid concept generation as results might be similar with literature's phenomena but **labelled** with new (researcher's) concepts?

Theorization requires sufficient **knowledge background** to understand variability in phenomena and make links between them. At the same time creativity can bring forth new perspectives > **How to stay open?**

Validation can be done also utilizing **multiple researchers** - testing of similar understanding

Strengths / weaknesses

Attempt to produce **generalized explanations** (fitting with the data as a whole) supports validation.

Skills necessary to **interpret variability**.

As contextual, **time / timeline** can affect interpretations, and thus, results