



## Book review

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### Qualitative Data Analysis with NVivo

Pat Bazeley

Sage Publications Ltd, London

2007, 210 pages, £21.99

ISBN 978-1-4129-2140-4

NVivo is a software package to assist in the management and analysis of qualitative data. There are many such software packages now available (see: <http://caqdas.soc.surrey.ac.uk/>) and NVivo has a long pedigree, being a descendent of NUD\*IST by QSR. The latest release represents a substantial investment in terms of money, and computer resources (my near new laptop struggled to run the software). Qualitative analysis, regardless of the tools available, also takes a considerable amount of time, so it is useful to get the most out of the software and not waste time needlessly. If NVivo is the reader's choice, then this text will certainly help the researcher rapidly get up to speed. Pat Bazeley has a long association with the software developers, and hosts a commercial web site offering training and treat facilities as well as notes and resources to accompany the book (<http://www.researchsupport.com.au>). The software itself is packaged with a range of multimedia and textual tutorials, but despite several hours reviewing these I still ran into difficulties automating the importing of documents on my first occasion using NVivo. This text addresses many of the problems I encountered and there is something comforting about having a well-written, concrete 'how to' book in hand (rather than on screen).

The text is well structured and indexed. It has eight chapters addressing how to set up a project, make, manage and code data, and undertake in-depth analysis from different qualitative research traditions. It is liberally illustrated with relevant screen shots, tips, warnings, specific instructions and examples that have clear headers and are easy to navigate. In short, it is a well-crafted software 'dummy guide' which of course may date very quickly as software undergoes major revision. However, the careful and intelligent synthesis of scholarly work relating to qualitative research and analysis will prolong the shelf life of this book. The final chapter provides advice regarding how to add depth to analysis which takes the reader beyond the 'how to' to consider 'where to'. This and the first few chapters should be read at the early stage of a project. The remainder could be delved into as the project unfolds or as necessary. The book will be particularly useful for students, novice users and more experienced researchers who wish to quickly adopt this software.

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