

Chapter 2: Epistemological bases for qualitative research

Edley, N. (2001) Unravelling Social Constructionism. *Theory & Psychology*, Vol. 11(3): 433-441.

This article sets out the defining features of social constructionism and also its plurality, questioning the 'unitary paradigm' of social constructionism. Edley also reviews the tensions that exist around a 'thoroughgoing' constructionism. The article also offers a useful discussion of the distinction that can be made between ontological and epistemic social constructionism and the benefits of exploring and utilising such a distinction.

Cornish, F. & Gillespie, A. (2009) A pragmatist approach to the problem of knowledge in health psychology, *Journal of Health Psychology*, 14(6): 800-9

Frosh, S. (2007) Disintegrating qualitative research, *Theory & Psychology*, 17(5): 635-53.

The articles by Cornish & Gillespie and Frosh are really helpful in that they foreground the epistemological challenges associated with qualitative research in psychology and they explore various epistemological positions that are available. They are useful articles in that they help the reader to clarify their understanding of epistemology and for the reader to develop their own position.