## **PET - NON PARTICIPANT/STRUCTURED OBSERVATION**

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| **Define the**  **method** | **Where the researcher observes the group without taking part** | | | | |
| **Example(s)** | **Holden (2011) – ‘Happily ever after’**  **‘why kids kill’ – Dispatches – Channel 4** | | | | |
| **Circle correct** | **Quantitative** | **Qualitative** | **Positivist** | **Realist** | **Interpretivist** |
|  | **Strengths** | | **Weaknesses** | | |
| **Practical** | * Eliminates Hawthorne effect if covert * Don’t have to train the researcher for interpersonal skills * Its faster, more representative which leads to firmer generalisations being * made * Doesn’t depend on the skills of the researcher | | * Time consuming to carry out and analyse if using filmed data. * If using cameras they may not be able to be put everywhere. * Could be hard to access/carry out on closed groups. | | |
| **Ethical** | * If its overt it is ethical as people aren’t being deceived * No risk of researchers going native, this may involve condoning unethical behaviour or withholding information from the police * Safety is increased if using CCTV/filming from a distance | | * No informed consent * If Covert, can be unethical because of informed consent | | |
| **Theoretical** | * Reliable because it is a structured method * Observer remains dethatched which means the groups behaviour is not influenced * Standardised observational categories which produces reliable data * Pre-coded observational categories allow the sociologists to produce quantitative data | | * You can’t get the full picture, so lacks validity. * If overt there could be the hawthorne effect. | | |

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