

Candidate 2 evidence

9)	<p>There are many different ways of researching a particular phenomena, this essay is going to look at how it would be best to research the motivations of white collar criminals and is going to do so by comparing case studies, structured interview and covert observation.</p> <p>Using case studies has many advantages for analysing this phenomena, such as that it is a first hand recout of someones experiences and so there is limited interpretation required of the information making it more valid. It is also good as because it is them talking about their experiences rather than an interviewer asing them questions the interviewer cannot impose his biases on the subjet either conciously or unconsciously, this makes the results more valid as it is more likely to be a true representation o what that person believes to be true. However, the white collar criminal could lie and impose their personal biase on their motivations to try and make whatever they had done seem reasonable and/or garner sympathy for their case which would make the results less valid. However, this affect is lessened as one of te main drivers for white collar offending such as fraud is ego and narcasistic tendancies and so</p>	
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	<p>they are likely to want to talk about themselves and their experiences. Another advantage is that you can easily gather lots of case studies with low cost, this makes it easy to repeat and more reliable. Similarly, it is easy for someone to find the case studies used and check for themselves if the information is accurate again making it more reliable.</p> <p>However, it is less reliable as since most case studies are done anonymously/by using fake names the researcher cannot ask the respondent for clarification on what they mean. This affect could be lessened by making the case studies non-anonymous. However, this would lead to many ethical issues as it could lead to someone who has been a victim of white collar crime harming a respondent and it would also make the results less valid as people might be less forthcoming if it is not anonymous.</p> <p>Another method for analysing this phenomena is structured interviews. These have many advantage such as that you can create the questions ensuring they talk specifically about what it is you want them to which makes it more valid. Also increasing validity is the fact that in an interview the interviewer can ask the respondent for clarification on what they mean by a response. Structured interviews are also reliable because if you publish your questions that you asked it is then easy for someone to repeat. Another advantage to structured interviews is that as the questions are predetermined there is very limited scope for the interviewer to impose their own personal biases on the individual meaning a professional interviewer is not required making it cheaper to do increasing both validity and reliability. However, these same predetermined questions make the interviewer less flexible, that if something comes up in an interview that they want to ask more about that isn't one of the questions they can't really go into it, making the results less valid.</p> <p>Both interviewing someone and gathering case studies on individuals allows you to see what they think motivates them to offend even if it was something from an early age such as their dad lying to them which is a huge advantage in increasing these methods validity as it allows you to see the whole picture.</p> <p>However, as to conduct an unstructured interview the interviewer typically has to go to the respondent this makes it less reliable as it makes it take longer to carry out and cost more due to travel times and costs making it less reliable. This affect could be nullified by doing the interview over the phone but this makes it harder to tell someone genuine reaction to something and makes them more likely to end the interview early by hanging up - both decreasing the results validity.</p> <p>One final method for researching the motivations for white collar crime is to use covert observation. This has many advantages as it allows you to see what genuinely motivates them to offend in the short term very clearly and they cannot lie to you as it is you observing them, this makes it more valid.</p> <p>However, it also has many drawbacks such as that it is dangerous to do and so there are many ethical issues with universities or newspapers agreeing to send someone in. It is also very time consuming and so less reliable as it is hard to repeat. And it also is less valid as it allows the researcher to impose their own personal bias on what they are observing either consciously or unconsciously.</p> <p>It can therefore be seen that although each method for researching the motivations of white collar criminals has its advantages and disadvantages. Structured interviews are better than case studies as they are easier to</p>	

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	<p>repeat and you can ask for clarification. However, case studies are better than covert observation as they allow you to see the whole picture of why someone is offending, they are easier to repeat and there are less ethical issues associated with this.</p>	
<p>10)</p>	<p>Source B can be considered trust worthy to a small extent. This is because although it has many advantages this essay will illustrate that the disadvantages outweigh the advantages in this case.</p> <p>One advantage of the document is that it is an official government document, this makes it reliable as when it is released it will be read and analysed by thousands including experts in the field, this makes it valid because any mistakes found in it would be highly embarrassing to the government and so they are incentivised not to make any mistakes, and because it is an online source any mistakes found would be rectified. This same association with the government could be a disadvantage as they have a political slant and so there could be information that they don't include because they want to make it appear like they are doing a good job, however, this affect is lessened in this country due to the free media and the fact that anyone can do a freedom of information request (FOI) and obtain the raw data. Because of this for every major press release from the government a reporter will do a FOI and obtain the raw data to check for any discrepancies. It is also lessened because in this country if the government withhold information they are likely to get whistleblowers who will release the information to the public. An example of this was the government tried to withhold their economic forecast for the result of Brexit and whistleblowers released it to the press anyway. Another advantage to the document is that the age range of the respondents was 19-79 this is a very wide range and so makes the information more valid as it shows us a much larger picture of the phenomenon. Similarly, the information comes from a wide geographical area and as such is good for representing the whole nations views, once again improving its reliability. The source is also more reliable as its use of telephone surveys is easy to repeat for nother researcher to try and clarify the results. The soure is also more reliable as it provides a link to the original publication allowing you to go back and check the data.</p> <p>However the source is less valid as all of the respondents where white and so it is not representative of demographics views and opinions, so if black people have a different view then this will not be included in this report. It is also less valid as it has a small sample size, this makes it less valid as these people might not be representative of the entire nations views. It is also less valid because it is now dated, this source is from 15 years ago and so things could have chamged since then that changes how people feel on this phenomena. The fact that this might of happened is evidenced by the fact that the source refers to the different forces used, but there are no loner individual forces in Scotland as they have all been amalgamated into police Scotland and this same amalgamation could of changed victim perceptions.</p> <p>It is therefore clear to see that although this document has many advantages, such as the wide age range and the fact that it is a government document, its age and lack of ethnic diversity make it far less trustworthy and so source B should only be trusted to a small extent.</p>	