

Research Proposal Review – Research Methods and Professional Practice – Michael Geiger

Since there are already many theories on the topic of gender pay gaps in the technology sector, which factors lead to different pay for the sexes, I believe that conclusive research would offer greater added value for further research into the topic.

An evaluation of existing surveys with regard to the gender pay gap would represent an appropriate research method. By evaluating the survey, a volume of data can be obtained and a quantitative assessment can be made of which factors have been primarily examined in relation to the current state of research and which aspects have currently received little attention (Ruggiano & Perry, 2019). A case study as part of a secondary literature review could also be used, but this would only produce qualitative results that list a general overview of possible factors, but the significance and transferability of the results to the actual state of research would be considered, including a weighting of these Factors limited so that the research results could present a distorted picture of reality.

Depending on the results of the evaluation of the surveys, however, an adaptation to a mixed research method would be conceivable, since the evaluation could give rise to further research questions which, for example, indicate factors that have not yet been analyzed sufficiently and could therefore offer a productive contribution to the state of research.

References:

Ruggiano, N. & Perry, T. E. (2019) Conducting secondary analysis of qualitative data: Should we, can we, and how?. *Qualitative Social Work* 18(1): 81-97. Available from: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/1473325017700701> [Accessed 27 December 2022].