



**University of Calgary**

**PRISM: University of Calgary's Digital Repository**

---

University of Calgary Press

University of Calgary Press Open Access Books

---

2010

## Grey Matters: a guide to collaborative research with seniors

Marlett, Nancy; Emes, Claudia

University of Calgary Press

---

Marlett, N. & Emes, C. "Grey Matters: a guide to collaborative research with seniors". University of Calgary Press, Calgary, Alberta, 2010.

<http://hdl.handle.net/1880/48236>

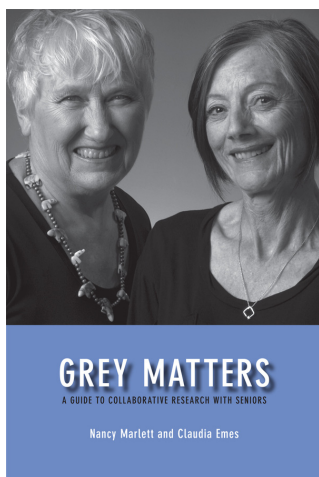
book

---

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/>

Attribution Non-Commercial No Derivatives 3.0 Unported

Downloaded from PRISM: <https://prism.ucalgary.ca>



## GREY MATTERS

### A Guide to Collaborative Research with Seniors

Nancy Marlett and Claudia Emes

ISBN 978-1-55238-536-4

**THIS BOOK IS AN OPEN ACCESS E-BOOK.** It is an electronic version of a book that can be purchased in physical form through any bookseller or on-line retailer, or from our distributors. Please support this open access publication by requesting that your university purchase a print copy of this book, or by purchasing a copy yourself. If you have any questions, please contact us at [ucpress@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ucpress@ucalgary.ca)

**Cover Art:** The artwork on the cover of this book is not open access and falls under traditional copyright provisions; it cannot be reproduced in any way without written permission of the artists and their agents. The cover can be displayed as a complete cover image for the purposes of publicizing this work, but the artwork cannot be extracted from the context of the cover of this specific work without breaching the artist's copyright.

**COPYRIGHT NOTICE:** This open-access work is published under a Creative Commons licence.

This means that you are free to copy, distribute, display or perform the work as long as you clearly attribute the work to its authors and publisher, that you do not use this work for any commercial gain in any form, and that you in no way alter, transform, or build on the work outside of its use in normal academic scholarship without our express permission. If you want to reuse or distribute the work, you must inform its new audience of the licence terms of this work. For more information, see details of the Creative Commons licence at: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/>

#### UNDER THE CREATIVE COMMONS LICENCE YOU **MAY**:

- read and store this document free of charge;
- distribute it for personal use free of charge;
- print sections of the work for personal use;
- read or perform parts of the work in a context where no financial transactions take place.

#### UNDER THE CREATIVE COMMONS LICENCE YOU **MAY NOT**:

- gain financially from the work in any way;
- sell the work or seek monies in relation to the distribution of the work;
- use the work in any commercial activity of any kind;
- profit a third party indirectly via use or distribution of the work;
- distribute in or through a commercial body (with the exception of academic usage within educational institutions such as schools and universities);
- reproduce, distribute, or store the cover image outside of its function as a cover of this work;
- alter or build on the work outside of normal academic scholarship.

# Appendix 4

## Observation Workbook for Field-Work

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Team: \_\_\_\_\_

Going into the ‘field,’ to settings where seniors gather, to observe what is happening there. Record what you see, not what you think is happening!

## A. Description of the Site

Name and address of site:

Dates of observations/collections

Relationship of observer to site/collection

What is generally done here?

Who is being observed and why?

What is the role of the seniors/staff/others?

**B. Observations and Recordings**

On each page, do one recording. If you need more pages, duplicate these pages. You have been allotted one page for each recording; please feel free to use the back of the page if you need more space. You may want to take notes on sheets in a binder and transfer them to this page.

Space: (describe the size, furniture and décor of the space.)

General description of activity:

Time of observation:

Recording of activity and interaction	Comments

Repeat page for each observation.

## Evaluation of Your Observation Experience

- How did you feel recording and what were people's reactions to you? How did you handle inquiries, etc.?
- What were the major challenges to getting good data in this process?
- What do you think you learned about healthy aging from doing this observation?
- What did you learn about yourself as a researcher from doing this observation?
- How might this work for other seniors, what might have to be changed to make it more enjoyable and productive as a research process?

*It sure is good to talk about this;  
it's funny how great it feels to know you  
had the same experience. Don't try to stop  
us; we need to do this, we can handle it.*

*(CP 2004)*



**Janice Kinch**

*This project was learning in action – for all of us. The importance of community collaboration and participation are key to health, health care, and justice for all. The learning from the project has stayed with me and found a way into my life as an educator and as an aging woman every day.*