

# What interviews are good for

Matthew Powers  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Communication  
[mjpowers@uw.edu](mailto:mjpowers@uw.edu)



1

STANDARD  
REASONS FOR  
AND AGAINST  
INTERVIEWS

2

INTERVIEWS  
ARE SOCIAL  
RELATIONS

3

IMPLICATIONS  
OF SEEING  
INTERVIEWS  
AS SOCIAL  
RELATIONS



1

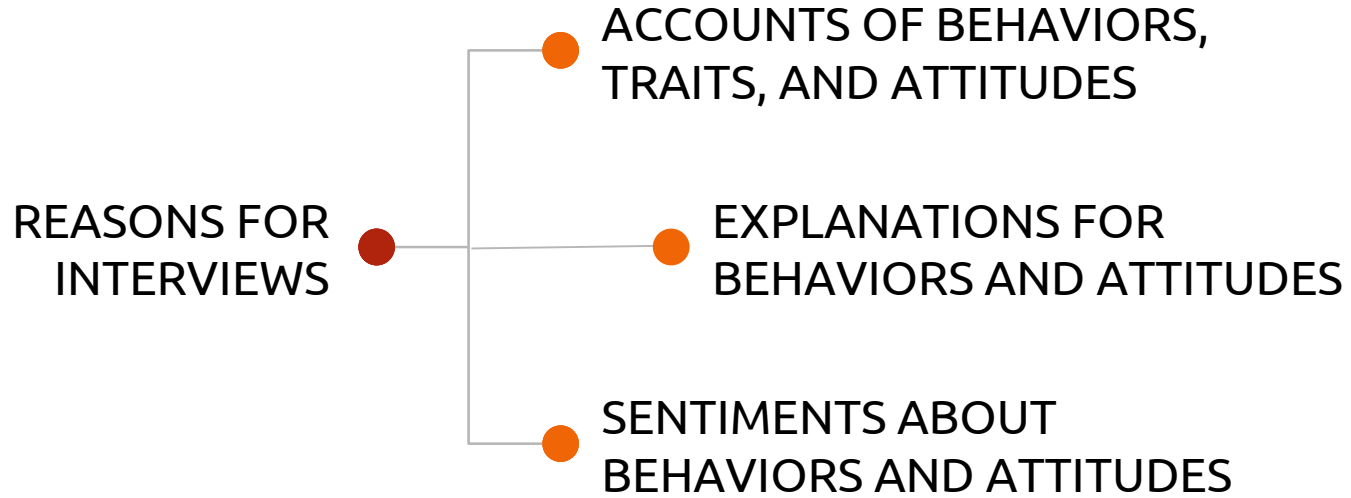
STANDARD  
REASONS FOR  
AND AGAINST  
INTERVIEWS

REASONS FOR  
INTERVIEWS

● ACCOUNTS OF BEHAVIORS,  
TRAITS, AND ATTITUDES

● EXPLANATIONS FOR  
BEHAVIORS AND ATTITUDES

● SENTIMENTS ABOUT  
BEHAVIORS AND ATTITUDES

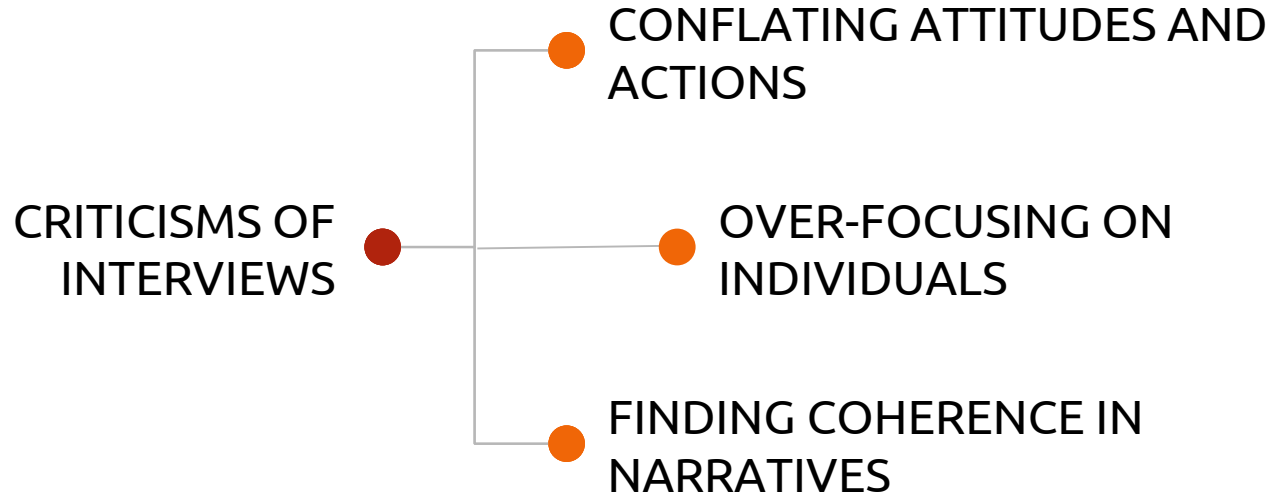


CRITICISMS OF  
INTERVIEWS

CONFLATING ATTITUDES AND  
ACTIONS

OVER-FOCUSING ON  
INDIVIDUALS

FINDING COHERENCE IN  
NARRATIVES



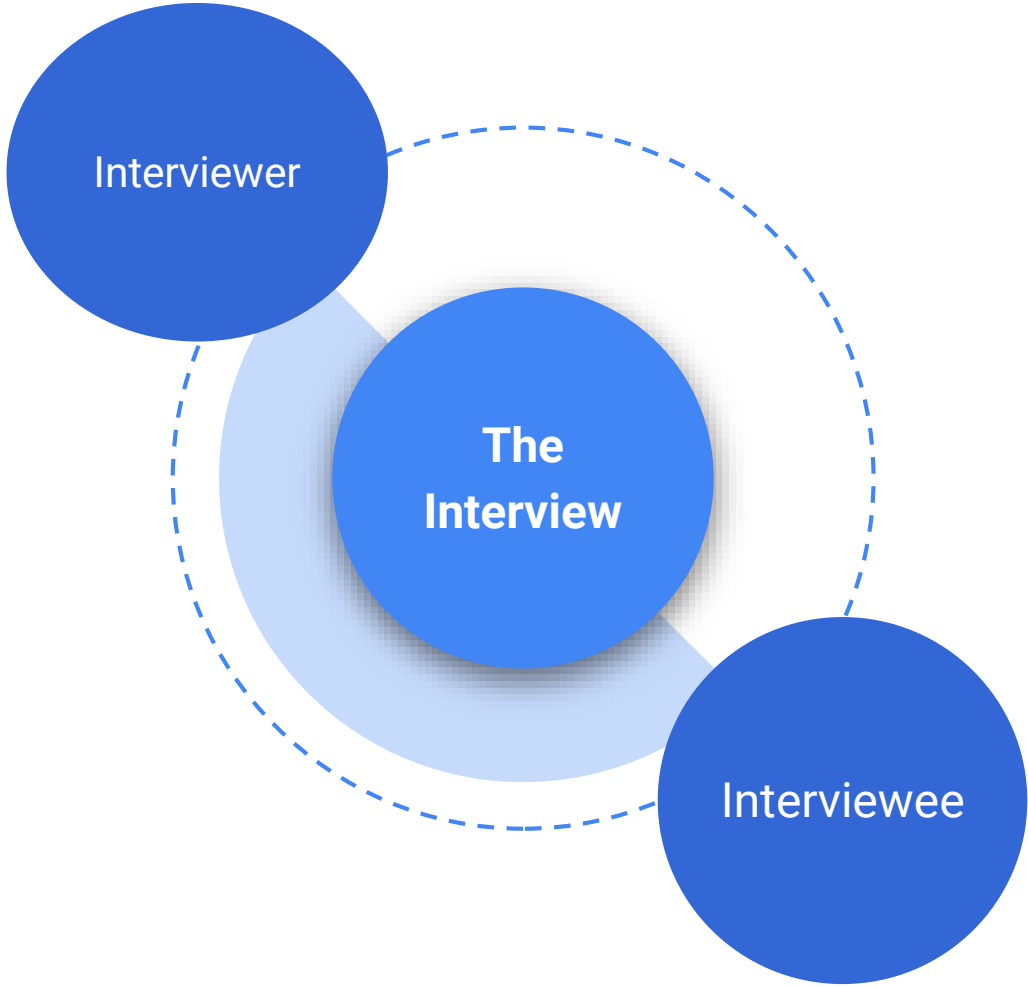


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# What was the initial idea for [your publication]?

I'd been at [local newspaper] for 9 years and, you know, that's a good run. Like any long run, I had pluses and minuses. So I kind of left it like, **"yeah, it's time to get out of here!"**

And that era...was kind of scary and exciting.

So those two things coalesced, and there was just this kind of clear opportunity to report.. **So I just saw an opportunity to, well, start a site**...That's the genesis of it.

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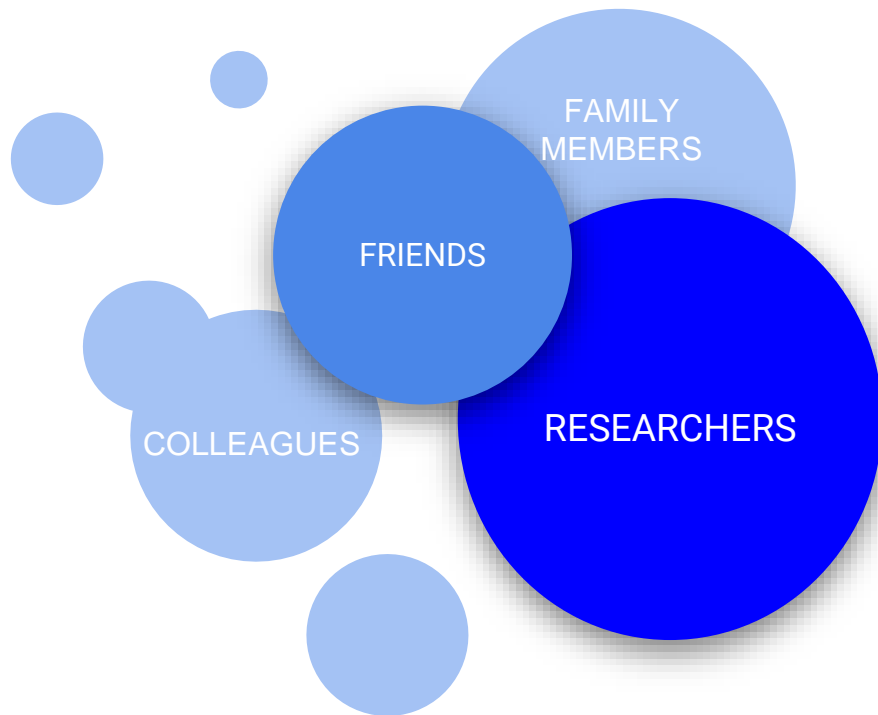
How did you do  
the basic stuff  
like find office  
space or  
funding?

**God, I have to remember this to be accurate here!** Ok, so I knew a couple of wealthier people, some people who had money...and were fans of my work, liked me, and trusted me as a journalist. One of them wrote me this check so I could basically live for, you know, about 3 months, and make rent. **I remember now those days...**

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# Why isn't the site working?

The main problem is that nobody wants to fund on investigative, itchy information. City Hall prefers to fund journalists who prepare events for the directors of public entities and then make news out of it. For example, one media makes a weekly breakfast for elected representatives, and then makes an article out of it... **I'd rather give up then sell my soul to the devil.**



FAMILY  
MEMBERS

FRIENDS

COLLEAGUES

RESEARCHERS

**1 BEFORE THE INTERVIEW**

- REVIEW THE LITERATURE
- HOW TO FRAME THE QUESTION
- FAMILIARITY WITH THE FIELD

**2 INTERVIEW**

- GATHER INTERVIEW DATA

**3 AFTER THE INTERVIEW**

- CHECK WITH KEY INFORMANTS
- ANALYZE INTERVIEW DATA

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