

# Parent Points



The status differences between parents and researchers may impact on the research. Middle class parents are more likely to consider themselves equals with the researcher, whereas working class parents may view them with suspicion

Asking parents about their input into their child's education can be problematic. Some may object (particularly working class) as they may think the researcher is making judgements

Parents can be sensitive about their child's education and therefore may object to research disrupting their child's education. On the other hand, some parents may put their children forward to speak to researcher, which could impact of the validity as they are encouraged to provide answers they think the researcher wants to hear

The ethnic background of parents can also be a factor. Some minority ethnic parents may have limited English skills or English as a second language which would influence questions asked or the way they were administered

The social class of parents can influence the research. Middle class parents are more likely to talk about their child's education and their involvement in positive terms whereas working class parents are less likely to discuss their involvement or blame the school for their child's problems

It is difficult to observe parental interactions with children as they often take place behind closed doors



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