

Reorganizing analysed data You now have coded data. You will see how a particular theme or perspective has a range of evidence relating to it. You may be able to assess the strength and complexity of these ideas too: one with a substantial supporting data will seem more persuasive than one with little to back it up.

3 Compare themes and perspectives: Now examine how these various themes and perspectives relate to each other. As well as links, similarities and differences, look for contradictions, uncertainties, tensions, dilemmas. Your next step is to reorganize these according to the codes like this:

1 Group your data: Make a list of the themes and perspectives you have identified. If another perspective is about the role of parental expectation, bring those data together too (note how this grouping process is rather similar to how you handled material in your literature review in Chapter 6). Again, this process is similar to the process of agreement and contrast which you tackled in your literature review, except that now you are applying it to your collected data. Then collect all the data from all your methods relating to each theme and each perspective on that theme. Are themes completely separate, or are there links between them? Do they reflect different interests, emphases or priorities?