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Perspectives on Methodology in Consumer Research

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From Springer : Perspectives on Methodology in Consumer Research before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Perspectives on Methodology in Consumer Research:

Methodological advances in consumer behavior are increasing rapidly. We can characterize these advances by work in two logically separate but functionally related areas: (a) the philosophical underpinnings of our methods, and (b) the

analytic strategies for examining the phenomena of interest in the field. An important aspect in communicating these advances is the demonstration of their use on focal problems in consumer behavior. Current research strategies and analytic techniques in the field of consumer research reflect the dominant logical empiricist epistemology. The development of new epistemologies (e.g., scientific relativism, hypothetical realism), however, is likely to modify the dominant logical empiricist approach and is also likely to influence the analytic strategies used to conduct research. For instance, with the increased awareness of scientific relativism and hypothetical realism, greater emphasis is anticipated for idiographic rather than nomothetic designs, for observational rather than experimental designs, for process rather than static analyses, and for more sophisticated techniques for summarizing findings across studies. The major theme underlying this volume is that conceptual, analytic, and substantive diversity are essential for consumer behavior research to advance. Collectively, the chapters we present in this volume are a diverse set of perspectives for the study of consumer behavior. This volume is organized into three parts: (1) philosophical orientations toward consumer behavior research, (2) analytic strategies for consumer behavior research, and (3) applications of these orientations and strategies to current research areas.