

# Experiencing **Ethnography**

**By:** Tony Christensen

**A bar in Southern Ontario.**  
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# Sociological Research

# Methods

Quantitative

Historical

Qualitative



# Ethnography

is used across  
many academic

**disciplines!**



**What challenges will  
you face?**



# Three challenges:

Access

Relationships

Perspective



# Purpose:

Understand the process of starting ethnographic fieldwork.

# The first challenge:

Access



Open site.



**Closed site.**



Will you do your research  
**covertly**

or

**overtly?**

The issue of  
informed consent.

# The second challenge:

Relationships



**Complete  
Observer**

**Complete  
Participant**





Where are **your** boundaries?

# The third challenge:

Perspective



**Try not to pass  
judgment while  
in the field.**



# Beware “going native.”

You



**But . . .**

**You are not alone.**

# Three challenges:

Access

Relationships

Perspective



**Thank you.**