

The Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) as a Method in Case Study Research: Analysing the Accessibility of Library Design

Tanuwidjaja, Gunawan; Rieger, Janice; & Franz, Jill

Abstract

Case Study research often uses different methods to analyse the rich data that is collected. This paper presents a new method for Case Study research, the Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE). This is a method that is often used an auditing tool for design but has the potential to be employed in different ways when coupled with Case Study research. This presentation will discuss the historical use of the Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) and how it can be adapted for use in qualitative research more generally.

Furthermore, an example of how the Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) can be implemented in case study research will be discussed through a study at the library of the Petra Christian University, Indonesia that was conducted in 2017. This case study was to an analyse the accessibility of the library for physical access but also access to education. This case study involved the collection of a rich data set through interviews, focus groups, photos, and walk-through audits with key stakeholders, management and people with disabilities. Through the use of the Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) method it provided a framework for understanding how all of the different data sources could be collected together and organized. This presentation will discuss the use of the Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) method in new and innovative ways and evidence its potential to not only provide a framework to collect data, but also to organize and analyse the data to inform case study research practices.