

## **The difference between the problem and the problematic**

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### **Abstract:**

After reviewing a significant number of articles dealing with the methodology of scientific research (especially in the aspect related to the idea, i.e. the presentation of the research problem), I noticed that there is a basic problematic, represented in the absence of uniformity and agreement on the use of the term "research problem" or "research problematic",

Some use the term "research problem" as a holistic concept without mentioning the term "research problematic", and others use "the research problem" as a main title, and only refer to "the problematic of research" as a hint or statement when dealing with the issue of "identifying or checking the research problem",

While another category uses the term "research problematic" as a concept and a main title while presenting the topic methodologically, and within this main title they refer to "the research problem" as a statement, or the term "starting question" as a hint at the research problem.

Others work on separating both "the research problem" and "the search problematic" in separate titles while presenting the topic from a methodological point of view.

**Key words:** problem, problematic.

### **Introduction**

The preparation of scientific research is of great importance to the researcher in general and the university student in particular, and perhaps the most distinctive of these scientific research is that obstacle faced by many students, and are even afraid of it when preparing the research they are assigned to, which is to pose the problematic. This is the first thing that will be criticized for them. There are those who start to look for the problematic after finishing writing the research.

Hence, the role of the subject of the problematic in determining the accuracy, quality and importance of scientific research, in other words, the problematic that the researcher chooses to address is a factor that affects all the process of research, therefore the success of the research to be accomplished depends on it.

What is the problematic and how is it formulated?

### **First, what is the problematic?**

**1\* Definition of the problematic:** There are those who define the problematic as: "A vague situation for which we do not find a specific explanation."

Or it is a procedural formulation of a set of questions on the subject. This formulation begins by asking a general question and then breaking it into subquestions which by answering, the researcher can answer the general question.

The problematic is a comprehensive identification of the topic's dimensions that the researcher wants to investigate. These questions are primarily directed at the researcher himself, as if he were asking himself what he wanted to look for.

In college research, it has been common to identify problematic questions in four questions: What? Where? How? When? What do I want to look for? Where is the research study place? What is the academic way I research for the subject? At what time do I proceed researching? ( Musbah Amar, p 27,2006,)

The problem is generally the issue whose results give rise to suspicion and risk.

Some French consider it a set of questions raised by the scientist or the researcher that is acceptable in view of his means and the subject of his preoccupation and perception. (Laland philosophical Encyclopedia, Arabization of Ahmed Khalil, Owaidat Publications, 2001, p.1050)

### **2\* sources for obtaining the problematic:**

There are many sources of the problematic according to the conditions that stem from them or suggest them, we mention the following:

- \* The researcher notices problems that require research and study.
- \* The desire to supplement a previous research that was limited to one aspect of the problem, thus continuing the research process.
- \* Different environmental conditions surrounding the research variables, the researcher chooses a new problem then.
- \* Satisfying a personal need felt by the researcher stemming from what may be dictated by his daily life of problems, difficulties and aspirations.
- \* The reports or observations of officials in official institutions and organizations that express concerns that represent problematic that need to be studied

(Louisa Bhaz and Mary Mabrouk, 2009, p59)

### **3 conditions of the problematic formulation:**

Conditions for the proper formulation of the research problematic are:

**A\*** That the problem expresses real forms, in the sense that the shapes suggest a wondering and a questioning that require research and detection.

**B\*** To be related to the research topic, i.e. the cognitive and specialized field of the researcher.

**D\*\*** To be strictly defined, i.e. far from literary and construction.

**D\*\*** To be clear in its expressions, do not carry literary vocabulary or strange words.

**C\*\*** Not to be contradictory, i.e. graded from general to specifications and from all to part.

**D –** To be connected between two or more variables.

**Z\*** The researcher should avoid asking problematic questions, closed questions that require a yes or no answer.

**D\*\*** The problematic should be subject to real and field testing.

**There are four stages to formulate the problem that the researcher must commit to:**

- 1- Sense stage:** After identifying the cognitive field and determining the title, the researcher extrapolates this field, and the ambiguity turns from conscientiousness to a concern the researcher tries to evacuate.
- 2- Statistics and Survey Phase:** The researcher relies on the actual reality by collecting data and survey on his topic.
- 3- The analysis stage:** After collecting the information, the researcher analyzes or disintegrates the problem into its elements.
- 4- Problematic formulation:** The stage of verbal expression of the issue so that it comes out as a question or subgroup of questions. (Well-maintained, 2014, 16)

#### **4. A good problematic specifications:**

**Clarity and accuracy:** The problematic of research should not be vague or impractical, for example if someone put the problematic "What are the effects of reforms on the life of the Algerian citizen?" The question is both very broad and vague: What reforms are we talking about: economic, social, political, cultural? etc. What aspect of life for the Algerian citizen we are going to talk about: Is it professional or family life? or all aspects of life? etc, and many other possible interpretations of this question, thus the ability of the researcher to properly address the problematic depends on its clarity and accuracy.

**Realism:** It is related to the possibility of completing the research taking into account the researcher's capabilities and the resources available to him to address the topic, the time available to him also. The researcher before formulating the problematic should make sure that these aspects are available so as not to fall in the treatment of a difficult question that requires a long time and resources beyond his material means, which forces him to stop the research and thus waste time and effort.

**Efficiency** : This attribute refers in part to the researcher's intentions to understand what is present in order to clarify it and extract some rules that control the phenomenon, therefore it is not right for the researcher to start elaborating his problematic on the basis of prior judgments in order to confirm it, on the other hand, the researcher should realize in formulating the problematic that problems do intertwine and get complex and mixed with general phenomena, therefore their real causes can only be identified after some kind of accurate diagnosis. Just like the high temperature of the patient, it does not represent the problem in itself, but only a phenomenon that expresses the existence of a problem (the disease) must be investigated and the effective treatment prescribed, and follow-up treatment until full recovery. The scientific research goes in this way, as the problem is often felt by the researcher by observing the emergence of a phenomenon accompanying it or a showing its existence, which in fact does not express the origin of the problem and its study does not constitute a solution to the problem. (Mohammed Abdul Ghani Saudi and others, 2007, p. 38).

### **5\* The importance of the problematic:**

The importance of the problematic is summarized in three points:

- It helps determining the research framework for the researcher.
- Is considered the basis of research and its base. It must exist, if the construction of the problematic is a failure, the research will be so.
- It sums the subject in the form of a question.

(Fadel Delaware, 1995, p. 132)

### **6\* The difference between the problem and the problematic:**

**A Problem:** A phenomenon or an issue that results from relationships and variables that seek a solution.

**A Problematic:** It is a speculative and conceptual method formulated by the researcher to address a particular issue.

(Maurice Ingres, translated; Bouzid Saharawi et al., 2004, p. 74)

### **Second: A good researcher qualities**

A researcher is characterized by a number of qualities and basic characteristics and some have classified them into two types of initial abilities and skills acquired: the initial abilities are personal readiness and ability to research. The skills acquired are to adhere to the ethics of researchers and follow both sides.

Here are the most important qualities that a researcher should have:

1\* The researcher should be a lover of science and limitlessly curious . Very knowledgeable and very thoughtful.

2\* The researcher should cherish his opinions and respect the opinions of others.

3- The researcher should have accuracy in collecting evidence and observations and not rush to reach decisions unless supported by accurate and sufficient evidence.

4\* that the researcher be inclined to meditate and analyze enjoying the sense of imagination and proceed through his imaginary perceptions to reality thus a structured scientific work.

5\* Accept criticism of his opinions from others.

6\* To have the determination, patience and perseverance, ready to face and overcome the difficulties and steadfastly and courageously in the face of failure.

7\* To be a believer in the role of science and scientific research in solving problems in various fields through which happiness and well-being for humanity can be achieved. (Fatima Awad Saber, Mirqat Ali Khafajah, 2002, pp. 28-29)

8\* The researcher is characterized by morality, the most important of which is intellectual neutrality and honesty in quoting and not slander and attack other scientists. (Please Wahid Al-Doidari, 2000, p64)

9- The researcher should be characterized by clarity of mind, honesty of perception and clear from prejudice. (Mohammed al-Sawy, 1992, p. 11),

## **Conclusion**

In the end, we conclude that the problematic is a necessary step and an essential pillar in the research and must be understood while avoiding filling of concepts and the introduction of objectionable words and phrases.

In addition, it has to do with the success of the research required through its precise definition and precise wording.

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