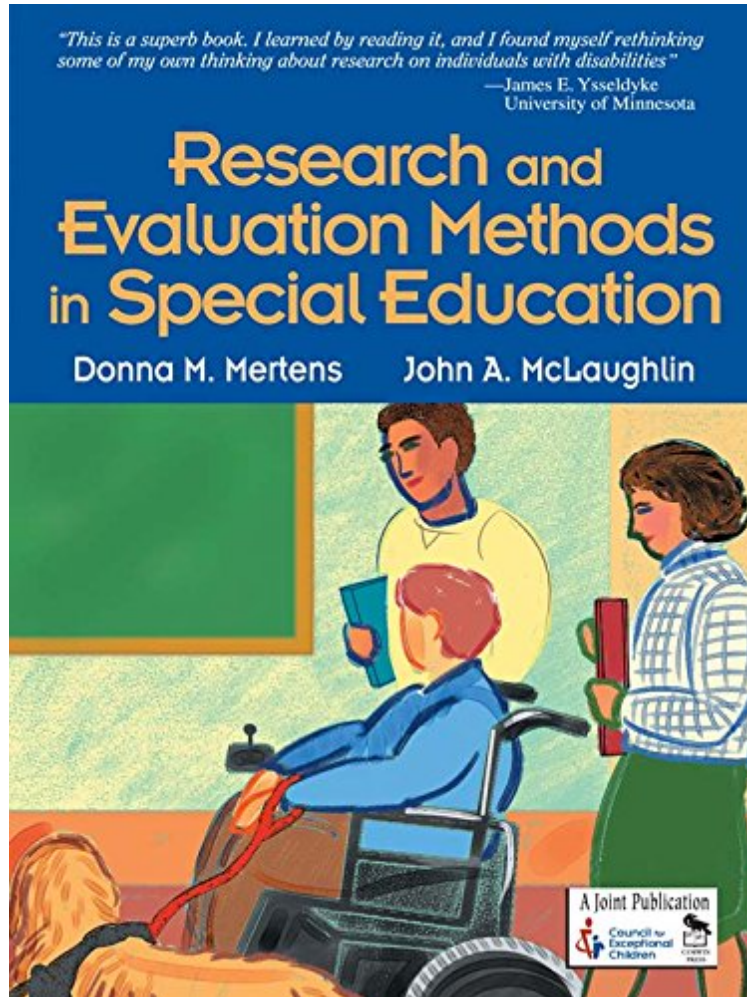


# Research and Evaluation Methods in Special Education

Donna M. Mertens

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" In an era when government policy emphasizes 'scientifically based research' (No Child Left Behind), this book provides an important resource in understanding what this means." "In an era when government policy emphasizes 'scientifically based research' (No Child Left Behind), this book provides an important resource in understanding what this means." "This is a superb book. I learned by reading it, and I found myself rethinking some of my own thinking about research on individuals with disabilities." -- James E. Ysseldyke, Professor

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About the Author Donna M. Mertens is professor emerita at Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. She taught research methods and program evaluation to Deaf and hearing students at the MA and PhD levels for over 30 years. Her research and evaluation work includes studies on such topics as transformative mixed methods approaches that can contribute to improvement of environmental justice in Korea, economic development and child health in Indigenous communities in Guatemala, reducing violence and improving quality of life in Chile, improvement of special education services in many international settings, enhancing the educational experiences of students with disabilities, preventing sexual abuse in residential schools for Deaf students, improving access to the court systems for Deaf and hard-of-hearing people, and improving the preparation of teachers of the Deaf through appropriate use of instructional technology. Her research focuses on improving methods of inquiry by integrating the perspectives of those who have experienced oppression in our society. She draws on the writings of feminists, racial and ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, and Indigenous peoples who have addressed the issues of power and oppression and their implications for research methodology. Dr. Mertens has made numerous presentations at the meetings of the Mixed Methods International Research Association, American Evaluation Association, Association for College Educators of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, International Sociological Association, Australasian Evaluation Society, American Psychological Association, African Evaluation Association, Canadian Evaluation Society, Visitors Studies Association, and other organizations that explore these themes. She served as president and board member of the American Evaluation Association from 1997 to 2002 and as a member of the Board of Trustees for the International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation, 2002ndash;2003. She was editor of the Journal of Mixed Methods Research from 2009 to 2014. She served as a visiting professor at La Universidad del Valle in Guatemala and a Fulbright specialist in Santiago Chile in 2016. Her publications include four edited volumes, Indigenous Pathways to Social Research (coedited with Fiona Cram and Bagele Chilisa,

2013), Handbook of Social Research Ethics (coedited with Pauline Ginsberg, 2009), Creative Ideas for Teaching Evaluation (1989), and Research and Inequality (coedited with Carole Truman and Beth Humphries, 2000), and several authored books, including Research and Evaluation in Education and Psychology (4th ed., 2015), Program Evaluation: A Comprehensive Guide (with Amy Wilson, 2012), Transformative Research and Evaluation (2009), Research and Evaluation Methods in Special Education (coauthored with John McLaughlin, 2004), and Parents and Their Deaf Children (coauthored with Kay Meadow-Orlans and Marilyn Sass Lehrer, 2003). She also publishes many chapters and articles in edited volumes, encyclopedias, handbooks, and journals, such as Journal of Mixed Methods Research, Qualitative Social Work, Educational Researcher, International Journal of Mixed Methods Research, New Directions for Program Evaluation, American Journal of Evaluation, American Annals of the Deaf, Studies in Educational Evaluation, and Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis.