



## NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON QUALITATIVE EMPIRICAL METHODS IN LEGAL RESEARCH

*Under the aegis  
National Academy of Law Teachers*

**December 12-14, 2019**



**Centre for Criminology & Victimology  
&  
Professor Theodore Eisenberg Centre for  
Empirical Legal Research**

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### **National Workshop on Qualitative Empirical Legal Research:**

*“Good Legal research skills are a necessary step  
in attaining the ability to ‘think like a lawyer’ and  
achieving valid legal reasoning outcomes”*

- I.Baghoomians

Qualitative Empirical legal scholarship is arguably the next big thing in legal intellectual thought. It takes ample amount of time, logical thinking and discipline. To carry out the process of Qualitative Empirical Legal Research, a researcher passes through the four phases –curiosity, content and context, consultation and closure. Despite the promise and potential of qualitative empirical legal research, the progress on this front world over has not been very noteworthy. J.Smith in his book-The Mind and Method of the Legal Academic, 2012, rightly observed the modern scenario that “Traditional Legal Scholarship is under pressure. Debates are taking on the aims and methods of the academic study of Law”.

The training in Qualitative Empirical Research is a highly demanded yet a much neglected area in the legal research. The legal scholars & teachers have many misconceptions about Qualitative empirical method of Legal Research. Due to the lack of proper training in this methodology, Qualitative empirical research has almost reduced to an arbitrary writing barely qualifying the status of research output. In the name of qualitative empirical research highly unscientific and unsystematic output is dished out and this hampers the growth of law as a discipline and related qualitative empirical developments in this field.

The core argument is that qualitative empirical research could be as systematic and scientific as non-doctrinal and empirical. This situation places us to contemplate a systematic short workshop familiarizing the participants into a structured introduction of qualitative empirical legal methodology.

The National Law University, Delhi (NLUD) places considerable emphasis on Legal Research and aspires to be identified as a world class research university. This initiative at NLUD is the result of the realization that legal research is generally a neglected territory even in the best of law schools in the Asian region. Even the creation of the chain of elite law schools all around is largely unable to foster the culture of research in law discipline. The lack of skill and competence in legal research has contributed to the decay in quality legal research. Legal research therefore could not become a source for considering and influencing policy matters, judicial reforms and judicial administration.

The grim situation of legal research was the result of various factors. Primarily, the scholars pursuing law courses often do not have enough opportunity to train themselves in advanced methods of research as the curriculum of law courses have very limited coverage of research methodology and that too is available at only courses at masters level. This workshop therefore, is an attempt to observe how specific legal rules are actually applied in real-world situations.

The Centre for Criminology and Victimology was set up to contribute to the fundamental and applied objectives dealing with Criminology and Victimology. The centre brings along important interdisciplinary Research and Learning strategies. The Centre, in the past has conducted numerous Training, Research workshops and Conferences especially in the area of Juvenile Justice, Gender Justice and Victimology.

Keeping this view, Theodore Eisenberg Centre for Empirical Legal Research (T.E.C.E.L.R) & Centre for Criminology and Victimology (CCV) has taken upon itself a task to launch a capacity building initiative in Qualitative Empirical Legal Research through the National Academy of Law Teachers, an institute set up at NLUJ that has already organized a series of training programs for law teachers in different streams.

**Earlier, these Centres at National Law University, Delhi** have organised the following Workshops on Research Methodology:

1. International workshop on Empirical Legal Research in association with Cornell University (2-7 February, 2013).
2. National Workshop on Research Method and Data Analysis (2-4 May, 2013).
3. The Second International Workshop on Empirical Legal Research in association with Cornell University (10-14 February, 2014).
4. The Second National Workshop on Research Methods and Data Analysis (08-10 May, 2014).
5. The Third International workshop on Empirical Legal Research (16-22 Nov, 2015).
6. Qualitative Methods in Legal Research under the aegis of National Academy of Law Teachers (September 24- 26, 2018)

### **Objectives:**

The present workshop intends to be a systematic introduction of qualitative empirical aspects of legal research. It aims to introduce specific tools and techniques including the application of software like Atlas Ti. The learning objective would be to enable the participants to use doctrinal tools and techniques for legal research.

### **Themes for the Workshop:**

The workshop would focus on a range of subjects relating to QELR. Some illustrative areas are indicated below:

1. Basics of Qualitative Empirical Legal Research.
2. Tools and techniques in QELR
3. Qualitative Empirical Legal Research approach to the selected issues relating to judicial administration and judicial reforms (like research on arrest, bail, review & revision, delay & pendency, etc.).
4. Atlas Ti - Applications.
5. Qualitative data collection
6. Content analysis & case study, case law analysis/ framework.
7. Reporting of research findings.
8. Theoretical sampling.
9. Critical Reasoning
10. Meta/ Text analysis.
11. Developing research proposal for Qualitative Empirical Legal Research.

### **Participation:**

Members of faculty and researchers in the law schools who have inclination and some experience in the application of Qualitative Empirical Legal Research are invited to participate in the Workshop.

The intake of participants will be up to 40 participants, which includes a maximum of 30 participants from India and 10 participants from Asian & other region. Each participant is expected to bring a personal computer to the workshop.

### **Registration:**

Due to anticipated oversubscription of the Workshop, participation therein will be strictly subject to selection. Prospective participants may fill the registration form link and send request electronically to [intworkshop@nludelhi.ac.in](mailto:intworkshop@nludelhi.ac.in) indicating their qualifications, affiliation, present post and reason for applying the workshop. This should reach to us on or before **November 15th, 2019**. The confirmation of participation will be communicated by **November 25th, 2019** to all the confirmed participants. The participants shall submit the registration fee along with the prescribed Google form of registration only after getting confirmation.

### **Registration Form Link:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1KoWB83LJFOaZckJxVuyPzX9jVtAyD2m1ttc31oIE5H4/edit>

### **Contact for queries:**

**Dr. Sidharth Dahiya,**  
**Assistant Registrar & Coordinator,**  
+91-7838782877  
Email: [intworkshop@nludelhi.ac.in](mailto:intworkshop@nludelhi.ac.in)

### Participation Fee:

| Participant                   | Amount of Fee   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Asian/other foreign delegates | 200 USD   |
| Indian delegates              | Rs. 3000/-<br>(without accommodation)<br>Rs. 5000/-<br>(with Accommodation) |

Registration fee may be deposited through online payment.

**Online Payment:** Participants should pay the registration fee through the link mentioned below. Registration form and receipt of online payment should be emailed at [intworkshop@nludelhi.ac.in](mailto:intworkshop@nludelhi.ac.in)

### Link:

<https://www.digialm.com/EForms/configuredHtml/511/50084/application.html>

### Transport:

The confirmed participants are required to report at National Law University Delhi latest by 8.30 a.m. on **December 12th, 2019**. There are enough options of transport available at the Railway Station and Airport in Delhi round the clock and therefore, the participants are advised to take appropriate transport on their own to reach NLUD Campus. Transport advisory will be communicated to the participants confirmed for the workshop in due course.

### General Information:

1. Accommodation will be subject to availability.
2. Accommodation fee includes food and lodging (Check-in will be available from December 11th, 2019 – 5 P.M. onwards and Check out on 14<sup>th</sup> December).
4. Accommodation will not be provided to people residing in Delhi/NCR region.
5. Only fifteen seats are reserved for residential accommodation (first -cum- first basis). Rest twenty five seats are non-residential.
5. Accommodation will only be provided from 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2019.
5. There is no “On the Spot Registration”.
6. No TA/DA will be paid.

### Organizing Committee:

**Prof. (Dr.) Ranbir Singh**  
Vice- Chancellor, NLUD  
Patron

**Prof. (Dr.) G.S. Bajpai**  
Convener, NLU Delhi

**Dr. Bharti Yadav**  
**Dr. Sidharth Dahiya**  
**Dr. Garima Pal**  
Coordinators