Life after focus groups

Data is everywhere. It has become a commodity rather than a powerful competitive advantage. The true value comes when we refine data and understand the individuals behind it. The question is: can traditional focus groups still perform that task?

The traditional focus group is dead.

Focus groups where people sit in an artificial environment, stick their hands up when asked a question, and are asked to remember things from three months ago, while clients watch them from behind a mirror —are overused and formulaic.

Long live the tools and approaches ahead of us!

There is proliferation of new tools and new techniques that capture insights in a way that better integrates system 1 thinking, considers consumers in-context, and delivers results faster and more cost effectively. Moreover, new approaches are allowing us to humanize the data and, in essence, become better researchers.

New approaches and techniques!



Virtual- Artificial- and Mixed Reality Agile, flexible, cheap, immersive and engaging



Voice Analytics Emotional subcurrent of verbal expression



Neuro - qual Emotional, individual, immediate



Video analysis

Authentic, immersive, brings data to live, contextual



Passive measurement

Actual (i/o claimed) behaviour, minimal respondent engagement, measuring over long time periods, measuring location data



Artificial Intelligence

Copes with the analysis of big data in its varying shapes, sizes and forms

"This is a very exciting time! As these new approaches help us to totally understand people and create more impact!"

Veronique Verellen



Technology is the means, not the goal!

We all know a business or marketing leader who suddenly wants to switch to some obscure neuro technique and lives aside the sound foundations of research. So, beware of the shiny object syndrome.



More information?
Please contact Shirley Wong
Shirley.wong@Ipsos.com