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Evaluation by Triangulation of Methods: Social Programs

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Objectives: This book proposes a theoretical research method for evaluating social programs by triangulation of methods and recounts how this strategy has been used in practice.

Methodology: Interpretative analytical.

Results: Evaluation through triangulation of methods is proposed as an alternative to traditional and qualitative evaluation. The technique combines an external evaluator, qualitative and quantitative approaches, and analysis of context, background, relationships, representation and participation. It integrates the advantages of traditional assessment with qualitative approaches and elements of participatory processes. In an evaluation of the Brazilian program, *Cuidar*, elements, strategies and operation are described from the proposal stage to reporting the outcome.

The work of a team which used this evaluation method is also described.

Conclusions: This book represents an important contribution to the debate on emergent evaluation of social programs and social change proposals.