Considering Oral History:
Methodological Questions and Reflections
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This poster highlights some reflections on conducting oral history research in the context of developing and conceptualizing a proposed study of the historical development of the PhD in Nursing degree in Canada.

**Oral History**
“History From Below”
What is oral history? How did it develop?
What are its social purposes?
Why is oral history important for nursing research?

**Research Questions**
What kinds of questions can oral history address?
How does oral history help us to explore the multiple historical conditions and contexts in which specific events occurred or social processes took place?

**Sources**
**Eye Witness Interviews**
Selection Criteria? Sample Size?
What are the implications of considering participants’ stories and archival documents?
What is privileged here?

**Archival Documents**
Newspaper Articles
Meeting Minutes
Policy Statements

**Data Analysis**
What are common strategies for data analysis?
Are Interview data text? Can they be analyzed as such? How?

**Concluding Thoughts**
Although interpretations and collected narratives are the most visible, accessible, and perhaps most interesting elements for consumers of oral history research, equal attention and care must be given to the design aspects of one’s own research endeavors.

Selected References