**Qualitative Research Probes**

**What are you seeking from the respondent?**

**CLARIFICATION**

* Share what you mean by...
* It sounds like you are saying...?

**DETAILS**

* What else can you tell me about that?
* Could you please give me an example?
* What else was going on at the time?
* And how did that happen?

**FEELINGS & REASONING**

* What does that feel like?
* How does that look to you?
* And why was that important?
* What did you take away from that situation?

**VARIATION**

* Have you always felt that way?
* Has anyone had a different experience?
* How has that changed over time?

**LEVEL OF CONVICTION**

Provide an example of an antithetical scenario and ask participant(s) how that feels, what should happen, what is wrong with the picture.

**Types of appropriate response:**

**DIRECT QUESTIONING**

Direct questions ask participants about their own experience in their own words.

**INDIRECT QUESTIONING**

Indirect questions ask about what “people think” what “other people think” or what the “community thinks” about a scenario. These types of questions offer participants an opportunity to share localized conventional wisdom based on experience and observation.

**ASSERTION**

A neutral way to encourage feedback.

* Silence
* Nodding (but not in agreement)
* Echoing
* “I see,” “uh-huh,” “what else,” “OK,” or “thank you”

**CONFIRMATION**

Repeats back, reflects, or summarizes actual participant responses in order to ensure accurate reporting, let the participant know you are listening, and to move the conversation forward.

**RETURN FROM DIGRESSION**

* And how does that relate to the question?
* Can you recall what about this story related to the issue?

**ACCOMODATION OF EMOTION**

* Can you say something about why this issue inspires so much emotion?
* I can see that is so hard for you.