This chapter focuses specifically on service users' involvement as peer research interviewers. It points out that this approach, while part of a wider methodological commitment to challenging the objectification of service users within research, represents just one method of doing so, and is notably distinct from 'user-led' research. It draws on two studies undertaken within the social housing sector to outline the rationale, methods and ethics of peer interviewing, and to assess its strengths, as well as its risks. It argues that through this research approach, benefits can accrue to the peer interviewer, the service user being interviewed, and the ‘quality’ of the research process and data gathered. It suggests that the benefits associated with peer interviewing are contingent on the effective management of the risks involved. It provides useful guidance on how best to minimise risk and maximise the benefits of peer interviewing, while also advocating further evaluation of the research approach.

Research Journals in Social Sciences
A.V. Manjunatha and B.B. Chand

This chapter analyses the relevant aspects related to research journals and examines the growth and trends of social science research (SSR) journals; the status on access and delivery models of SSR journals; the role of institutions, associations, and commercial publishers in promoting
SSR journals; and the quality and quantity of SSR journals in India. The study found that of the total 2131 journals analysed, about 84 per cent are published in English, only 9 per cent in English as well as in Hindi/regional languages together, and 7 per cent only in Hindi/regional languages. Analysis of 1992 journals published in English and English/ Hindi/regional language(s) shows that over 40 per cent of these are in disciplines of economics and allied subjects. Education, law, and multidisciplinary themes take the majority of the remaining share.