## Writing a Proposal for Your Dissertation: A Step-by-Step Guide

- Specific: Your research question should be specific enough to allow you to conduct a focused study.
- **Feasible:** Your research question should be feasible to complete within the time and resources that you have available.
- Interesting: Your research question should be interesting and engaging to you and to others.
- Relevant: Your research question should be relevant to your field of study and to the broader body of knowledge.
- Identify the gaps in the existing research: Your literature review will help you identify the areas where there is still a need for research.
- Develop a theoretical framework for your study: Your literature review will help you develop a theoretical framework that will guide your research.
- Support your research question: Your literature review will provide evidence to support your research question.
- Search for relevant sources: Use library databases and other resources to find books, articles, and other sources on your topic.
- Critically evaluate sources: As you read the sources, critically evaluate them for their relevance, validity, and reliability.

- Organize your findings: Once you have gathered your sources, organize them into a logical structure.
- Surveys: Surveys are a good way to collect data from a large number of people.
- Interviews: Interviews are a good way to collect in-depth data from a small number of people.
- Observations: Observations are a good way to collect data on behavior or events.
- Experiments: Experiments are a good way to test the effects of different variables.
- A description of your data collection methods.
- A description of your data analysis methods.
- A timeline for your research project.
- Title page: The title page should include the title of your dissertation, your name, your advisor's name, and the date.
- Abstract: The abstract is a brief summary of your dissertation proposal. It should be no more than 250 words long.
- The should provide background information on your topic and explain your research question.
- Literature review: The literature review should summarize the existing research on your topic and identify the gaps in the research.

- Research methods: The research methods section should describe your research plan, including your data collection and analysis methods.
- Expected outcomes: The expected outcomes section should describe the expected outcomes of your research.
- References: The references section should list all of the sources that you used in your dissertation proposal.



## Writing a Proposal for Your Dissertation: Guidelines and Examples by Steven R. Terrell

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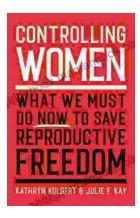
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