

# The Psychologist as a Detective

Unobtrusive Measures: Physical  
races and Archival Data



# Physical Traces

- Rationale—advantages
  - Minimizes or eliminates reactivity
  - Multimethod hypothesis testing
- Types
  - Use traces (e.g., tools, food, clothing, buildings)
    - Natural vs. controlled
    - Accretion vs. erosion

# Relating the Type of Use to the Change in the Object

Type of Use

Change in object	Natural	Controlled
Accretion		
Erosion		