Research Question Rabbit Hole Examples

**Example 1**

RQ1: How does the production of corn affect the environment?

A1: Nitrogen from farming pollutes the ocean

RQ2: How to lessen effects of nitrogen? *(Note: This RQ has now completely changed from the first, but the researcher is simply following the research)*

**Example 2**

RQ1: Should I cover up my tattoo for a job interview?

A1: There is judgement for tattoos in the workplace

RQ2: Does the judgement depend on the type of tattoo/image?

A2: →Does not find answer to the above question but finds: women with tattoos are perceived as less attractive and promiscuous & men are perceived as attractive and healthy.

RQ3: Why does gender change the perception? *(Note: Look how this researchers topic has completely changed—first it was just about tattoos, but now they are researching perceptions based on gender).*

**Example 3**

RQ1: What are the most reliable cars in the US?

A1: X

RQ2: Why is this the most reliable car/ what makes it most reliable?

A2: Y

RQ3: *(Should be the true RQ)* How to ensure all cars reliable? *(regulation?)*