
Web watch

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CURRENT TOPIC: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence is the leading cause of death and injury in women under 45 in Australia, with more than one woman killed by her current or former partner every week. In addition, more than one million children are affected by domestic violence (http://www.whiteribbon.org.au/uploads/media/updated_factsheets_Nov_13/Factsheet_5_Facts_and_figures.pdf; <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-05-05/domestic-violence-reaches-epidemic-proportions/5426214>).

“Family violence” is also a major problem in New Zealand (<https://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/research/scale-nature-family-violence>), where police respond to a related call every seven minutes (<https://glenninquiry.org.nz/the-current-situation-in-new-zealand>).

The term “epidemic proportions” has been applied to the levels of domestic violence and many are campaigning for more action to acknowledge and address the problem (<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-05-05/domestic-violence-at-epidemic-proportions-says/5430452>).

Domestic Violence NSW (<http://www.dvnsw.org.au/petition.html>) has started a petition at <http://www.change.org> asking the Prime Minister to “convene a national crisis summit on domestic and family violence”.

Before the recent election, the South Australian Liberal Party promised zero-tolerance domestic violence law (<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/news/south-australia/south-australian-liberals-pledge-zero-tolerance-domestic-violence-law-if-elected/story-fni6uo1m-1226827796852>) and the Victorian Labor leader has promised a domestic violence commission (<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/state-politics/victorian-labor-leader-promises-domestic-violence-commission/story-e6fgrczx-1226921159920>).

There are also calls to move the emphasis away from women as “victims” to men as perpetrators (domestic violence is usually perpetrated by men). White Ribbon Australia is a national, male-led organisation that campaigns to end men’s violence against women (<http://www.whiteribbon.org.au>). White Ribbon Ambassadors promise “never to commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women”. White Ribbon Day (25 November) signals the start of “16 Days of Activism to Stop Violence against Women”.

The Aurora domestic and family violence app is available for iPhones and Android phones. It contains emergency contacts, information on domestic violence and links to support services in NSW, and allows users to message their trusted friends and family members or call emergency services (http://www.women.nsw.gov.au/violence_prevention/domestic_and_family_violence_app).

Government services and payments are also available to provide support to people experiencing family or domestic violence (<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/subjects/domestic-and-family-violence>).

The National Sexual Assault Domestic Family Violence Counselling Service (<https://www.1800respect.org.au>) offers telephone or online help to:

- people who have experienced sexual assault or domestic family violence. Client support includes responses to domestic and family violence, mandatory reporting requirements, and protection orders and AVOs (Apprehended Violence Orders – these have different names and conditions across the States and Territories).
- people who need to support a family member or friend. This includes information on what constitutes domestic and family violence, and how to support someone experiencing violence (what to look for, what to ask, and what to do).

* All websites viewed June 2014.



- workers and professionals, to enable them to support clients and deal with workplace issues. Workplace advice includes supporting co-workers and preventing and dealing with work-induced trauma.

Not many services are targeted towards male victims of family violence and abuse. A list of some that might be able to help is provided at <http://www.oneinthree.com.au/servicesandresources>.

Help is available in New Zealand from police and community organisations (<http://www.police.govt.nz/advice/family-violence/help>; <http://www.areyouok.org.nz>; <https://womensrefuge.org.nz/WR/Domestic-violence/Domestic-violence.htm>; <http://www.2shine.org.nz>).

The Australian Domestic & Family Violence Clearinghouse “is a national program that reviews and disseminates evidence-based research on the causes, effects and ongoing impacts of domestic and family violence”. It is part of the University of New South Wales and is funded by the National Centre of Excellence to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children (<http://www.adfvc.unsw.edu.au>). Services of the Clearinghouse include:

- Publishing current news and events;
- Publishing newsletters, papers, factsheets, reviews and more;
- Assisting users to find information from the library/information service;
- Identifying gaps in the information that is available and undertaking original research;
- Providing online Research and Resources, Good Practice and Indigenous databases;
- Providing a guide to State and national legislation and policies.

The New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse is the national centre for collating and disseminating information about domestic and family violence in New Zealand. It is based at the School of Population Health in the University of Auckland (<http://www.nzfvc.org.nz>).

The Australian Parliamentary Library report *Domestic Violence in Australia – An Overview of the Issues* (November 2011) can be downloaded in PDF format (<http://www.aph.gov.au/About-Parliament/Parliamentary-Departments/Parliamentary-Library/pubs/BN/2011-2012/DVAustralia>). It is an update to a previous Parliamentary Library publication, and provides a thorough overview of domestic violence, covering at-risk groups, reporting to police, impacts of domestic violence, and policy responses. It concludes with a list of key journals and websites covering Australia across all States and Territories.

RESEARCH METRICS INCLUDING ALTMETRICS

Research metrics (bibliometrics) are used to measure the impact of research outputs (journal articles and other scholarly publications) at individual, group, institution, and even country levels.¹

The University of Queensland Library has published a library guide on *Research Publications Impact* (<http://guides.library.uq.edu.au/content.php?pid=550355&sid=4533844>). It starts with advice on why and when to use metrics, what metrics to use (choosing those appropriate to your discipline), and where to get help. It also covers metrics, h-index and other indices, benchmarking and HERDC (Higher Education Research Data Collection), ERA (Excellence in Research for Australia) and university rankings.

The Griffith University Library *Research Guide: Academics* provides advice on developing a research strategy, getting published, measuring impact, and managing research data (<http://libraryguides.griffith.edu.au/content.php?pid=220206&sid=1858212>).

There are many different metrics for evaluating research. One straightforward and well-known measure of citation impact is the h-index. An h-index of five means that a researcher has written five papers that have been cited by at least five other people, while an h-index of 10 means that a researcher has written 10 papers that have been cited by at least 10 other people. H-indexes are only

¹ King DA, “The Scientific Impact of Nations” (2004) 430 *Nature* 311.



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comparable within the same discipline, and even they can be misleading as a scientist with one highly significant paper will rank lower than a scientist with a larger number of papers.²

The San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA, <http://am.ascb.org/dora>) aims to “put science into the assessment of scientific research”. A key recommendation is to eliminate the use of journal-based metrics.

TOOLS FOR EVALUATING RESEARCH IMPACT

Key citation databases and research evaluation tools that may be available in libraries and organisations include Scopus (<http://www.elsevier.com/online-tools/scopus>); Web of Science (formerly ISI Web of Knowledge, <http://wokinfo.com>); Essential Science Indicators (<http://thomsonreuters.com/essential-science-indicators>); and InCites (<http://researchanalytics.thomsonreuters.com/incites>).

Google Scholar Citations (<http://scholar.google.com.au/intl/en/scholar/citations.html>) is freely available on the web and allows authors to keep track of citations to their own articles.

Publish or Perish is a software program that uses Google Scholar and Microsoft Academic Search to obtain raw citations, which it then analyses to provide a range of metrics (<http://www.harzing.com/pop.htm>).

CiteSeerx is a digital library and search engine that has focused primarily on the literature in computer and information science. CiteSeerx provides algorithms, data, metadata, services, techniques, and software that can be used to promote other digital libraries.

TIDSR: Toolkit for the Impact of Digitised Scholarly Resources (<http://microsites.oii.ox.ac.uk/tidsr/welcome>) is a knowledge base containing articles on quantitative and qualitative methods of evaluating research impact, along with a set of case studies.

Research metrics are now available for individual articles as well as for whole journals (<http://article-level-metrics.plos.org>).

ALTMETRICS

The move of scholarly references to the web has made it easier to measure research impact in different ways. Traditional metrics are now complemented by alternative measures, known as altmetrics. Altmetrics also address different levels of content, including datasets, “nanopublication” (where citable units are arguments or passages) and self-publishing via blogs and annotations (<http://altmetrics.org/manifesto>).

There are lists of altmetrics tools at <http://altmetrics.org/tools> and <http://research20atimperial.wordpress.com/optional-content/evaluation-tools>. Altmetric.com is used by Scopus and PLoS to track altmetrics for their articles (<http://support.altmetric.com/knowledgebase/articles/83246-altmetric-for-scopus>; <http://www.altmetric.com/demos/plos.html>).

People have also warned of the need to understand the limits of altmetrics, partly because those who share links on social media very often haven't read the papers they are sharing (<http://www.dcsience.net/?p=6369>; <http://ukwebfocus.wordpress.com/2012/11/08/understanding-the-limits-of-altmetrics-slideshare-statistics>; <http://scienceoftheinvisible.blogspot.co.uk/2012/11/altmetrics-everywhere-but-what-are-we.html>). The University of South Australia Library lists the pros and cons of altmetrics (<http://unisa.libguides.com/content.php?pid=287667&sid=4395151>).

A special section of the *ASIS&T Bulletin* on altmetrics discusses the inability of long-established citation-based metrics to capture the variety of online references to a scholar's work. Papers show how altmetrics can be used to enhance a scholar's CV as well as to transform scholarly communication through its interaction with open access digital repositories and research in emerging countries (http://www.asis.org/Bulletin/Apr-13/AprMay13_Piwowar.html).

² Ball P, “The H-index, or the Academic Equivalent of the Stag's Antlers”, *The Guardian* (7 January 2012), <http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2012/jan/06/bad-science-h-index>.



FOR INTEREST

LANGUAGES COMMONLY SPOKEN IN THE UNITED STATES

An article at [slate.com](http://www.slate.com) shows the languages (after English) most commonly spoken in each State of the United States. Spanish is the second most common language – but then the picture changes dramatically when it comes to the third language. Have a look at http://www.slate.com/articles/arts/culturebox/2014/05/language_map_what_s_the_most_popular_language_in_your_state.html.

PRIZES FOR EVENTS?!

Edible bugs might be fun prizes for an insect-themed event (<http://www.ediblebugshop.com.au>). Options include Mixed Insect Pack (20g of mixed edible insects including mealworms, crickets and cockroaches) and Creepy Creature Candy (lollipops containing a Meaty Mealworm or Crunchy Cricket). The edible insects are bred under hygienic conditions that comply with Australian Food Standards and are fed a special diet of grains and vegetables. The allergen information warns that people who are allergic to shellfish can have a similar reaction when eating insects.

FOR FUN

Funny Library Stuff has a good collection of images (<http://www.pinterest.com/ubtesla/funny-library-stuff>). I chuckled at “Children who read are 97.8% more likely to have correctly spelled tattoos when they grow up”.

Just Something has photos of the 50 funniest faces in everyday objects (<http://justsomething.co/the-50-funniest-faces-in-everyday-objects>).

Mental floss (<http://mentalfloss.com/article/12267/24-library-centric-sites-we-love>) lists 24 light-hearted library-centric sites including:

- Good Show Sir: Really, really bad sci-fi book covers (<http://www.goodshowsir.co.uk>);
- Inappropriate Book Covers (<http://inappropriatebookcovers.tumblr.com>);
- Books and Other Geekery: A photo tumblr all about books and libraries (<http://booksandothergeekery.tumblr.com>).

