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# Information Resources ENGL 113A



# Think outside the box.





# Contents:

- evaluating resources
- topic refinement and research vocabulary
- locate and manage resources
- useful resources for this class
- create and manage citations
- Supplements
  - links to services and assistance





# Critically evaluate resources



Essential questions to ask regarding a source of information:

- **CURRENCY**: When was the resource (research) published? Does the resource reflect recent knowledge of a topic? Are you providing an historical analysis that requires older sources?
- **RELEVANCY**: How well does the resource relate to your topic?
- **AUTHORITY**: Who created the resource? Qualifications? Has the resource been examined prior to (or shortly after) publication (e.g. peer-review, book review)\*
- **ACCURACY**: Is the resource based on fact, opinion or propaganda? Does it cite and/or list sources?
- **PURPOSE**: What is the purpose of the resource? For what audience is it intended? Does it express a bias or agenda?

Is a source right for you? [Take the CRAAP Test](#)

\* To confirm if a journal is peer-reviewed, use [OneSearch](#), or visit [Ulrichs Web](#)

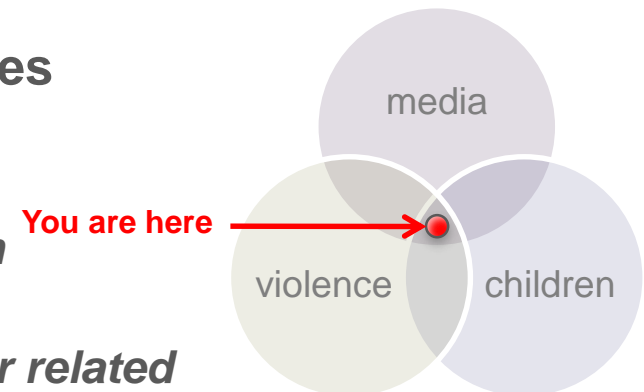
# + Refine your topic

- Make broad topics more focused
- Topical focus makes research manageable
- A focused topic informs what (and how) resources are used
  - Very recent topics      ➡ newspapers, magazines, Websites
  - Established topics      ➡ books, journals, films

## ■ Example: Refine topic and target resources

1. Broad Topic = **Media**
2. Narrower Topic = **Violence** in the media
3. Focused Topic = Media violence and **children**

*Using your topic terms, consider synonyms or related terms to create your **SEARCH VOCABULARY***



[Additional info](#)



# Build your research vocabulary



Define the contours of your topic by constructing your research (thesis) question or statement:

- What are the effects of **media violence** on **children**? OR
- **Media violence** affects (or does not affect) **children**.

**Note:** Through research, seek to prove or disprove the research statement, OR supply an answer to the research question.

Build a vocabulary of similar or directly related search terms from the most descriptive words in your research question or statement:

- **media:** television, film, video games, comics, music
- **violence:** brutality, assault
- **children:** kids, teens, adolescents

**These are your search terms you will use to locate information resources.**  
Consult a thesaurus to add synonyms to your terms, if necessary.

[Additional info](#)



# Locate and manage resources

Oviatt Library Portal

OneSearch retrieves most types of resources (books, articles and more) in a single search. This eliminates having to search across many collections independently.

**OneSearch**

Find Books, Articles, Media and More

Enter search terms here **Search**

More search options:

[Library Catalog](#) | [Journals](#) | [Audio/Video](#) | [Archival Sources](#) | [ScholarWorks](#)

[Watch  
video  
tutorial](#)

Alternative independent search of books, journals, and audio/video resources

Search archival collections, **Finding Aids Database (FAD)** and **Digital Collections** of the Oviatt Library and local archival materials

Search the CSUN Institutional Repository of faculty, student and departmental works



# Limiting and sorting searches

OneSearch Interface method – BOOKS AND MEDIA

## Format

- Online (89)
- Book (83)
- Video (78)
- eBook (11)
- Sound Recording (2)
- Serial (1)

Select from lists to limit results

## Year

- 2010-2013 (28)
- 2000-09 (114)
- 1990-99 (16)
- 1980-89 (3)
- 1970-79 (2)

Displays the number of resources for each category

## Subject Area

- H - Social Science (41)
- P - Language and Literature (22)
- K - Law (9)
- R - Medicine (6)
- G - Geography, Anthropology, Recreation (4)
- L - Education (3)
- Z - Library Science (2)

Results 1-10 of 164

sort by: **relevance** | newest first | oldest first



### Children, Adolescents, and Media Violence : A Critical Look at the Research

#### Book

By: Kirsh, Steven J  
Thousand Oaks, Calif.: SAGE Publications, 2012

Location	Call Number	Status
Floor2	HQ784.M3 K5677 2012	IN LIBRARY

Save this record



### Media Violence and Children : A Complete Guide for Parents and Professionals

#### Book

Westport, CT: Praeger, 2003

Location	Call Number	Status
Floor2	HQ784.V55 M43 2003	IN LIBRARY

Save this record

You can save resource records to revisit later. Be sure to login (upper right) to save permanently





# Limiting and sorting searches

OneSearch Interface method – ARTICLES

## Refine your search

- ☐ Scholarly only
- ☐ Full-text only
- ☐ Add results beyond the library's collection

## Format

- ☒ Any
- ☐ Journal Article (100,630)
- ☐ Book Review (13,242)
- ☐ Dissertation (12,519)
- ☐ Trade Publication Article (1,573)
- ☐ Report (977)
- ☐ Newsletter (439)
- ☐ Conference Proceeding (197)

[ [More Options](#) ]

## Topics

- ☒ Any
- ☐ social sciences (9,694)
- ☐ psychology (6,784)
- ☐ education (6,561)
- ☐ women (6,531)
- ☐ violence (6,250)
- ☐ sociology (6,087)

Click to  
view all  
categories

Results **1-10** of **125,199**

sort by: **relevance** | [newest first](#) | [oldest first](#)

**We found a couple of specialized databases that might help you.**

- [Studies on Women and Gender Abstracts](#)
- [International Political Science Abstracts](#)

## Media Violence and Children

### Journal Article Peer Reviewed

Presents the results of the UNESCO global study on media violence and children which was conducted between 1996 and 1997. Highlights include the role of the media, media heroes as role models, media violence and aggression, differences by gender, rural versus urban environments, the pervasiveness of . . .

**By:** Groebel, Jo

**Year:** 1998

**Published in:** Educational Media International

[Check for availability](#)

[Save this record](#)

## Children and Media Violence

### Book Review Peer Reviewed

**By:** Bryant, Jennings

**Year:** 1999

**Published in:** Aggressive Behavior

Include	Exclude	Format
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Journal Article (100,630)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Book Review (13,242)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dissertation (12,519)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade Publication Article (1,573)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Report (977)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter (439)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conference Proceeding (197)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Publication (181)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data Set (163)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Book Chapter (98)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Web Resource (62)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paper (36)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Government Document (12)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Video Recording (4)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Case (2)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Presentation (1)

[Submit](#)

# + Useful resources for this class



- Subject Guides: [English](#); [Sociology](#)
- Reference, Magazines, News, etc. (from “Databases A-Z”)
  - [Gale Virtual Reference](#) (topic overviews and viewpoints)
  - [Gale Reference Center GOLD](#)
  - [ProQuest Newsstand](#)
  - [Opposing Viewpoints in Context](#)
- Resources for writing
  - Subject: “[Essay -- Authorship](#)”
  - Title: [MLA Handbook](#) 8<sup>th</sup> edition

# + Citing Sources

- Use source citations to:
  - avoid plagiarism
  - demonstrate a strong understanding of the topic
  - strategically support your argument (stronger case)
  - allow readers to trace your line of reasoning





# Create and manage citations

- Use the [MLA, APA, Chicago and other style guides](#) from the library Website to format and check your citations (in text and works cited) for any media type
- Citations for books, audio/video and articles are located to the right of each record view for a selected resource.

## Cite this Book :

### APA

Kirsh, S. (2012). *Children, Adolescents, and Media Violence : A Critical Look at the Research*. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: SAGE Publications.

### MLA

Kirsh, Steven. *Children, Adolescents, and Media Violence : A Critical Look at the Research*. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: SAGE Publications, 2012.

### Turabian / Chicago

Kirsh, Steven. 2012. *Children, Adolescents, and Media Violence : A Critical Look at the Research*. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: SAGE Publications.

These citations are software generated and may contain errors. To verify accuracy, check the appropriate style guide.

Example citations from record view



# Manage resources and citations

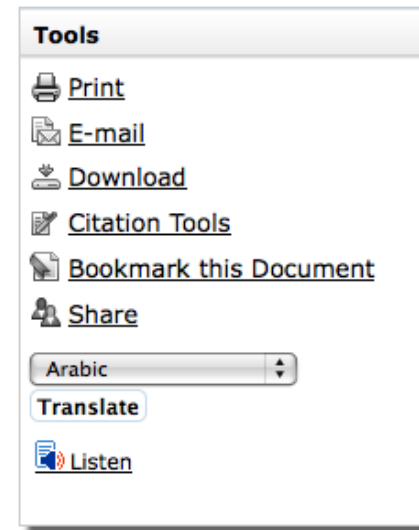
- Most article databases have tools to allow you to save or email a citations. Try the following locations on the database Web page:

- Upper right or left corner
- Directly above the article
- Right or Left toolbars



From: Lexis Nexis  
3.11.2012

- Citation Management & Formatting
  - [EndNote Web](#) access for students
  - Alternatively, [Zotero](#) includes a plug-in integrated with Firefox browsers

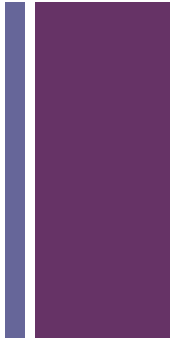


From: Gale  
3.11.2012

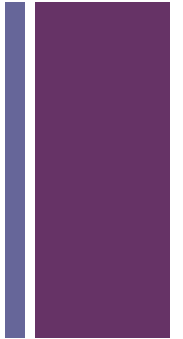
# + Oviatt Library Services

- The Oviatt Library offers these additional services:

- [Borrow and Renew](#)
  - [Interlibrary Loan](#)
  - [Course Reserves](#)
  - [Computers and Laptops](#)
  - [Photocopying and Printing](#); [Scanning](#)
  - [Study Rooms and Lockers](#)
  - [For users with disabilities](#)
- 
- [Important services for undergraduates](#)
  - [Student Guide to the Oviatt Library](#)
  - [Map of the Library](#)



# + Personal Assistance



- Librarians are available to assist you through the following service points:
  - 24/7 “Ask a Librarian” chat service
  - Text a librarian (additional text fees may apply)
  - Reference desk
  - Subject Specialists
- I am also available for email reference and individual consultation by appointment. Please contact:  
[stephen.kutay@csun.edu](mailto:stephen.kutay@csun.edu)