

Lit Reviews and Research Question

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Overview

- 1 Housekeeping
- 2 Research Question
- 3 Literature Review
- 4 Research Skills

- Last day to add/drop: **Friday, February 9, 2018** -that includes **waitlisted** students!
- Homework 1 is due **next week** Monday 12th!
- The **prompt** for the **research proposal** will be posted this week.
- Office hours start this week: **LLB 14 12-1pm**
- Make sure to **sign** the class attendance sheet

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Applied Work

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- 3 Fits within research paradigm but emphasis on novelty/originality

Applied Work

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- 2 More narrow and focused
- 3 Fits within broader program goals and emphasis on tried and true measures

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- 3 Start asking open-ended How? What? and Why? questions.

Question: *Why are social networking sites harmful?*

An evaluation of this question reveals that the question is unclear: it does not specify which social networking sites or state what harm is being caused. Moreover, this question takes as a given that this harm exists.

Revised Question: *How are online users experiencing or addressing privacy issues on such social networking sites as Facebook and Twitter?*

This version not only specifies the sites (Facebook and Twitter), but also the type of harm (privacy issues) and who is harmed (online users). But this is still not a social-scientific question. It's very broad in nature and is not readily amenable to hypothesis testing.

Final Revised Question: *Are millennials more concerned with privacy issues on social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter than older generations?*

This version asks a very specific question that can easily be converted to a *testable hypothesis*. It does so by identifying the population parameters and variables at hand; online users as the *population*, generation as the *independent variable*, and concern with privacy as the *dependent variable*.

Let's back up a bit and talk about resources

- 1 Librarian (online...)
- 2 Databases (JSTOR, Lexus-Nexus, EBSCO, etc.)
- 3 Professors

And let's also talk about sources

- 1 **Peer-review journal articles**
- 2 Books
- 3 Newsprint

You've done some preliminary research and established your research question. Now what?

- ① **Literature review!** (more research)
- ② Research design
- ③ Analysis
- ④ Report results

A literature Review forms the backbone of any research project and it serves 3 primary purposes...

- ① Outlines existing research related to the topic
- ② Situates the current study within the context of the literature in the field (gaps, extensions, challenges, etc.)
- ③ Provides framework for establishing significance (or rationale) of study