Journal 10/23/18

To you, what makes information (that you have no background in) trustworthy?

Explain

Unit 2: Research Methods
Table of Contents

1. Unit 2 Table of Contents
2. Notes: Overview of Research Methods
3. Notes: Writing a Sociological Question
4. Research Project Part 1A
5. Research Project Part 1B
6. Notes: Writing the Purpose
7. Notes: Writing a Literature Review
8. Literature Review Prep
9. Notes: Peer Reviewed Journal

Peer Reviewed Journal

- In academic publishing, the goal of **peer review** is to **assess the quality** of articles submitted for publication in a scholarly journal.

Peer Reviewed Journal

- Before an article is deemed appropriate to be published in a peer-reviewed journal, it must undergo the following process:

- The author of the article must submit it to the journal editor who forwards the article to experts in the field. Because the reviewers specialize in the same scholarly area as the author, they are considered the author's peers (hence "peer review").

Peer Reviewed Journal

- These impartial reviewers are charged with carefully evaluating the quality of the submitted manuscript.

- The peer reviewers check the manuscript for accuracy and assess the validity of the research methodology and procedures.

- If appropriate, they suggest revisions. If they find the article lacking in scholarly validity and rigor, they reject it.

- Because a peer-reviewed journal will not publish articles that fail to meet the standards established for a given discipline, peer-reviewed articles that are accepted for publication exemplify the best research practices in a field.

Peer Reviewed Journal

- When you are determining whether or not the article you found is a peer-reviewed article, you should consider the following questions:

- Is the journal in which you found the article published or sponsored by a professional scholarly society, professional association, or university academic department? Does it describe itself as a peer-reviewed publication? (To know that, check the journal's website).

- Did you find a citation for it in one of the databases that includes scholarly publications? (Criminal Justice Abstracts, EBSCOhost Academic Search Complete, PsycINFO, etc.)? Read the database description to see if it includes scholarly publications.

Peer Reviewed Journal

- Did you limit your search to **scholarly** or **peer-reviewed** publications?
- Is there an **abstract** (summary) at the beginning of the article?
- Is the tone of the article thoughtful, restrained and serious?
- Does the article have **footnotes** or **citations** of other sources?
- Does the article have a **bibliography** or list of **references** at the end?
- Are the **author's credentials** listed?
- Is the topic of the article narrowly focused and explored in depth?
- Is the article based on either **original research** or **authorities in the field** (as opposed to personal opinion)?
- Is the article written for readers with some prior knowledge of the subject?

ASA (American Sociology Association) Journals

- American Sociological Review
- Contemporary Sociology
- Contexts
- Journal of Health and Social Behavior
- Social Psychology Quarterly
- Sociological Methodology
- Sociological Theory

- Sociology of Education
- Socius
- Teaching Sociology

Part 3: Literature Review

- 15 points
- 1250 word minimum (not counting the reference page)
- 10 credible sources minimum
- 12pt font, double spaced
- Includes introduction, body with labeled sections, and conclusion
- All sources must be cited within the text using APA formatting
- Reference page must be included