

A STUDY ON USE OF LIBRARY RESOURCES AND SELF-EFFICACY

Mr. N. SEENI MOHAMED
(Research Scholar, Bharathidasan University),
Librarian, Jamal Institute Of Management, Jamal Mohamed College (Autonomous),
Tiruchirappalli-620020,
Tamilnadu.
&
Dr. K. SENTHILNAYAGAM
Librarian,
AVC College (Autonomous), Mannampandal, Mailadurai-609305.

ABSTRACT:

This study has been undertaken to determine the "Students use of the library resources and self-efficacy". This study has tried to find out the information seeking behavior of the graduate level students and their knowledge about the library resources and services made available to them and how their familiarity with the resources and technology develops self-efficacy. The study has tried to find out how the integration of the Internet has affected the information searching habit on students. The study has collected empirical data on the information searching behavior of the students of the colleges in Tiruchirappalli. Questionnaire method has been obtained to collect primary data from the 200 full time students of which 127 has been returned which is the exact number of questionnaire tabulated for the study. The study shows that in today's fast paced world the desire for expediency has promoted students to place a premium on information that can be found easily and quickly. To this end, many students limit their search to electronic resources, choosing format over substance and convenience over accuracy. In particular reliance on the World Wide Web as a primary and often sole research tool has impacted the quality and rigor of student's projects and reduced student's familiarity with more traditional print resources and bibliographical databases in their college library collection.

KEYWORDS: Library, Resources, Self-Efficacy, Users.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Education is the key factor in the development and advancement of a society. Each individual in a country should be considered as an asset because it is due to the overall contribution of human resources that a nation can progress and advance. To integrate each individual in the process of development and advancement of the nation, suitable education and training is very important. Since education and training of an individual is a lifelong process every nation must be aware of this fact, if proper directions are to be given to its people.¹⁰ To ensure that people get a lifelong education libraries should be made accessible and library services should be made available at all places, to all sections of the society. The human need for information is unlimited. People seek information from different sources and formats for undertaking a variety of jobs and tasks. They use information for decision making, discovering new phenomena, developing new techniques and technologies, and improving existing knowledge and theories. Information also plays a vital role in shaping human thinking and character building, communication, and the teaching process. Tremendous growth in knowledge, technological advancements and rapid changes in the modern world has led to an increased awareness of the importance of information in all aspects of life.

2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

Libraries are nests, which thatch scholarship but libraries are not themselves automatically valuable to users. Users need to be motivated to see the real worth of a library. There are various resources available both in print and electronically the main purpose of these resources will be fulfilled only if the users are able to locate these information sources effectively. Hence, the true worth of the library will be made. Coming to this era of technological development the forms of resources has been distinctively transformed from printed books and journals to various electronic forms. Today's library has a challenge to broaden its resources and develop its collection in print resources as well as electronic format. Student of these generation are more inclined to digital forms of information they like to

get information in a fastest way. This study has tried to find the answer for the following question that prevails among the student's making use of their libraries.

- Are the students aware about the library resources and services available for them?
- Where do they learn about the library's resources and services from?
- What type of resources do the students prefer to use?
- Do they know how to retrieve information from different present resources?
- Do they view their library as a resourceful library or not?
- How frequently do the students look for information in electronic resources?
- Different information searching tools they use while looking for information?
- Does the student feel that library resources could get them academic success?

2.1. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

1. To find out the student's using habit of library resources
2. To find out which library resources are more used between manual and electronic resources.
3. To find out the effectiveness of library resources in their education
4. To find out the student's use of Internet as reference source.

Wilson(2005) states that. Individuals are motivated to seek information to satisfy their needs. Graduate students have various information needs and use many information sources to meet those needs. The academic library is one vital resource as it serves as a central hub for students to access online materials, personal help, and other resources to guide their academic work.

According to Kerins et al., (2004) student information behavior is closely connected to their study subject and the number of years they have studied. Other research indicates that it is difficult for students to evaluate the quality of resources found on the Internet. Students obviously do not feel too comfortable with formalized library resources as they tend to avoid the library's web-based resources such as guides, portals and the like and they often have difficulties in distinguishing between different databases and information tools. From time to time they use library resources without any idea of the underlying library system. Students want simple and common interfaces and they do not want to go to different vendors or databases with different search requirements and interfaces. They want ease of use and simplicity (Vilar and Zumer, 2005). The information the students select is often randomly chosen and the choice is based on a least effort principle. In connection with this, it is often found that students employ a cut and paste culture or that they redefine their assignments and projects to fit the information found. It is important to note that an enormous variability exists among students depending inter alia on their study behavior and probably also their psychological profile as evidenced by Heinström (2005). Students prefer general search engines and it seems that they have difficulties distinguishing between Internet resources and library resources. Teachers' recommendations and how they put forward requirements and demands are very important for the students' use of information.

3. RESEARCH DESIGN:

Research Design is the plan, structure and strategy of investigation conceived so as to obtain answer to research questions and to control variance. For this research work student of three different institutions were studied. From this study researcher will try to find out the library using habit of the students. Their preference between the print and electronic resources and the reason behind it.

3.1. Source of Data: The major sources of data were primary as well as secondary which were used for this study. The primary data were collected through field survey, using the questionnaire and inquiring. Researcher also consulted dissertation, article, books, electronic journals, periodicals and brochures, etc.

3.2. Population: The population of study was students of graduate level at three institutions. Students who were familiar with the library and its service and had been using the library resources for their studying purpose

3.3. Sampling Procedure:

To study the application of library resources in their daily studying process of 510 students of the three institutions, the random sampling technique was adopted for this study. To fulfill the objectives of this study researcher distributed 200 questionnaires to the student which are about 25% of the total population. They enthusiastically filled

up the questionnaire without any hesitation after explaining the aim of the study by researcher. Out of 200 questionnaires 127 were returned duly filled. Several follow ups and request had to be made to the respondents to return the questionnaires timely. All 127 returned questionnaires were included in the analysis for this study which is 64% of the total questionnaire distributed.

After the data were collected from the students of three colleges: St.Joseph's College (St.J.C), E.V.R. College(E.V.R) and Jamal Mohamed College of computer studies (JMC). Data are presented in the tabular form to find out the frequency of the library use and the use of its resources as well as the students' library using pattern and their information seeking way are also shown. It is hoped that the tables sufficiently and correctly represent those all responses which are classified on the basis of the questions given in the questionnaire with their relevance. Responses of users are illustrated in the following tables and figures. The questionnaires were distributed to the students of respected colleges on the random basis

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Responses of users are illustrated in the following tables and figures.

The questionnaires were distributed to the students of respected colleges on therandom basis

4. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION:

Table: 1 Number of questionnaire distributed and returned by the student

Number. of questionnaires distributed and returned						
Name of the college	Distributed	Returned		Not Returned		%
		Number	%	Number	%	
St.J.C	50	34	68	16	32	100
E.V.R	70	41	59	29	41	100
JMC	80	52	65	28	35	100
Total	200	127	64	73	36	100

Table: 1 shows the Number of questionnaire distributed and returned by the students belonging to the respected colleges. 50 questionnaires were distributed at St.J.C from where 34 students (68%) were returned and 16 students (32%) were not returned. From E.V.R College 70 questionnaires was distributed from where 41 students (59%) were returned and (4%) were not returned. Likewise in Jamal Mohamed College for Computer Studies 80 questionnaires were distributed from when 52students (65%) were returned 28(35%) was not returned. It further shows that in total200 questionnaire was distributed among student of three colleges from where 127students i.e.(64%) of the total questionnaire was returned and 73 students i.e.(36%)did not returned the questionnaires.

Table: 2 Frequency of library visit by the students.

Name of the college	Frequency of library visit by the students											
	Never		Once or twice		Monthly		Weekly		Daily		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
St.J.C			4	12	6	18	17	50	7	20	34	100
E.V.R			9	22	9	22	9	22	14	31	41	100
JMC	2	4	5	10	8	15	23	24	14	27	52	100
Total	2	2	18	14	23	18	49	38	35	28	127	100

The data displayed on the table number10 shows that 2(20%) of the student of St.J.C visits their library daily, 17(50%) of the students visits there library weekly, 6(18%) of the students visits there library monthly and 4(12%) goes there once or twice. Whereas the students of E.V.R college some 14(31%) of the total respondent goes to the library daily and 9(22%) visits library weekly,9(22%) monthly and other 92 9(22%) visits library once or twice. Likewise in JMC 14(27%) students visits.

Library daily, 23(44%) of the students visits weekly, 8(15%) visits there library monthly, 5(10%) visits there library once or twice and 2(4%) says they have never visited their library.

In total it is evident that most of the students 35(28%) of the students visits their respective library daily with majority of them i.e.49 (38%) of them visiting it weekly with few % like 23(18%) visiting it monthly and 5(10%) of them doing it once or twice and even fewer like 2% of them saying they never goes to their library.

Table: 3 Purpose of visiting the library.

Name of the college	Purpose of visiting the library											
	To do assigned reading		To Read Newspaper		To update my knowledge		To read magazines		Others		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
St.J.C	18	53	4	12	7	21			5	14	34	100
E.V.R	11	27	8	19	15	37			7	17	41	100
JMC	24	46				23	10	19	6	12	52	100
Total	53	42	12	9	34	27	10	8	18	14	127	100

Above table number 11 shows that 18(53%) of the students of St.J.C visits there library for doing assigned reading, 4(12%) goes for reading newspaper, 7(21%) goes for updating their knowledge and 5(14%) stated that they visit library for other reason also. Likewise among the students of E.V.R college it is seen that 11(27%) goes for doing the assigned reading, 8(19%) goes for reading newspaper and 15(37%) visits library to update their knowledge and 7(17%) goes for other reasons. While according to the data students of JMC some 24(46%) visits library to do assigned reading and 12(23%) goes to update their knowledge and 10(19%) are seen visiting library to read magazines and 6(12%) goes for other reason beside stated above.

In total we could conclude that majority of the students 53(42%) visits college library in particular to do the assigned readings and following it closely it shows that 34(27%) goes to update their knowledge which basically shows that students visits library to fulfill the immediate subject need.

Table: 4 Use of library resources.

Name of the college	Use of library resources					
	Yes		No		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
St.J.C	32	94	2	6	34	100
E.V.R	37	90	4	10	41	100
JMC	43	83	9	17	52	100
Total	112	88	15	12	127	100

The above table 14 shows that about 32(94%) of the students of St.J.C does use library resources among them only 2(4%) responded negative to the question. Likewise 37(90%) of the E.V.R student use library resources while 4(10%) cited do not use library resources. And in JMC 43(83%) of the students use the library resources there 9(17%) responded that they do not use the library resources. In total the data shows that majority of the students i.e. 112(88%) does use library resources and minor amount of the total population i.e. 15(12%) do not use the library resources.

Table: 5 Students activity in the library.

Name of the college	Activity inside the library											
	Study		Check out book		Research		Use electronic resources		e-mail or chat other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
St.J.C	14	41	4	12	6	18	10	29			34	100
E.V.R	11	27	15	36	4	10	8	20	3	7	41	100
JMC	6	11	25	48	2	4	19	37			52	100
Total	31	24	44	35	12	10	37	29	3	2	127	100

The above table shows the data of the students and what they really do once they are inside the library. It shows that 14(41%) of the student of St.J.C studies in the library, 4(12%) of the student there check out new books or materials, 6(18%) of the students does there research work in the library and 10(29%) says they use the electronic resources while at the library. Whereas 11(27%) of the students of the E.V.R also uses library to study, 15(36%) check out new books and materials in the library and 4(10%) does there research work while 8(20%) of them uses electronic resources when they are in the library. Likewise 6(11%) of the students of JMC studies in the library and 25(35%) checks out for new books whereas 19(37%) uses the electronic resources and 2(4%) does their research work in the library.

In total we could say that majority of the student i.e. 44(35%) uses their respective library to just check out the books if something interesting or new has come up or not and secondly 31(24%) of them does there studies in the library while 37(29%) uses the electronic resources of the library and again 12(10%) does there research work in the library and 3(2%) does other thing beside all the things enlisted above so we could prove that majority of the students use the library for studying purpose which also makes the above question true. Data of this table is clarified in the figure number 10

Table: 6 Access to computer.

Name of the college	Access to computer											
	At home		At school		At work		At friends		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
St.J.C	12	36	22	64							34	100
E.V.R	28	68	6	15			1	2	6	15	41	100
JMC	25	48	20	38			2	4	5	10	52	100
Total	65	51	48	38			3	2	11	9	127	100

This table shows that 12(36%) of the student of K.U accessed to computer from home and 22(64%) of the student of K.U accessed to computer from college (school).Among the student of Thapathali 28(68%) of the students accessed from home whereas 6(15%) of the student accessed to computer from college and 1(2%) accessed from their friends place and 6(15%) accessed to the computer from other place like cyber and hostel. Likewise, as seen in table students of NCCS 25(48%) of the students accessed to computer from home and 20(38%) of the students accessed from school and other 3(2%) accessed from the friends place and still 5(10%) of the students accessed from the cyber and hostel.

In total students who accessed computer from home are 65(51%) and students who accessed from school is 48(38%) and students accessing compute from friends is 3(2%) whereas students accessing from other point like cyber and hostels are 11(9%).

5. FINDINGS:

The questionnaire was distributed to 200 students of three institutions i.e. 25% of the total number of targeted students of respected college. The responses were made by 127 students of these three colleges which is 64% of the student responded to the questionnaire. Among the 64% responded it was found that 87% of the students own a personal computer at home and 51% had access to computer from different point like at school, cyber and at friends. Further the study showed that 80% of the student were familiar with computer and had basic knowledge about the working of the computer since they were in school.

In the age of IT automated library seems to be preference of the student. About 53% student responded that they have electronic resources available at their particular library. Two of the libraries had its collection enlisted in CDS/ISIS database and among it one has online catalogue OPAC system. All three libraries have computer with Internet connection so as the student could use for their research purpose. They also had subscription to electronic journals whose site could be accessed by asking the library staff for username and password. These libraries also provided other electronic resources like CDROM, videocassettes and A/V strips. About 60% said that they use these electronic resources in their knowledge expanding process. The respondent seems to find it somewhat easier to access these resources as 46% responded that it easy to get information through these electronic resources. Forty eight percent of the student cited that they get the needed information timely and easily from the electronic resources at their libraries.

This study also tried to find the self-efficacy level of the students in finding the information. As we know that self-efficacy is the belief in oneself the students confidence in responding that they agree that they can find the needed information from the Internet shows that their self-efficacy towards Internet is stronger because of the knowledge of using the Internet as well as the familiarity with the computing skill that is endured on them since school level.

6. CONCLUSION:

Now day's students are expected technology adapted Library in the world and expecting digital collection in the modern age. So librarian tried to provide these resources and service among the institutions. The challenges that are brought about by the information explosion in the intellectual arena for the library will be to be more resourceful expanding their collection and Services as per their requirement.

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