Social Services Abstracts

Coverage: Searches for research published in the Social Work literature. The database provides abstracts (descriptions) of articles from over 1,400 journals and serials, dissertations, and book reviews, published from 1980 to the present.

Getting Started:

1) Go to the University Library site (http://library.csustan.edu/) & choose:
   a. Journal Articles
   b. Articles by Subject
   c. Social Work
   d. Social Services Abstracts

2) For access off-campus: Screen will prompt you to login.

Searching

Two Different Concepts

Put different concepts in different rows separated by “and”
(e.g. child abuse and reporting )

Two terms representing the same idea (plus a different concept)

Put synonyms on the same row in different columns
(e.g. domestic violence or partner abuse )
Viewing Citations to Journal Articles (only)

Social Services Abstracts includes records for dissertations, books, and other materials. Use the tab at the top of the results to limit to “Journals” or “Peer-Reviewed” journals only.

On Search Screen

- Box: Select all
- Check: Conference Papers & Proceedings
- Check: Dissertations & Theses
- Check: Scholarly Journals

On Results List

Narrow results by

- Box: Source type
- Bold: Scholarly Journals (231)
- Italics: Dissertations & Theses (15)

Reading the Results

Flexible Reporting Options for Skilled Child Abuse Professionals

Authors

- Journal name
  - Child Abuse and Neglect
- Volume
  - 15
- Issue #
  - 4
- Page #s
  - 335-341

Getting the Text of an Article

- Click the Find It button to see if the publication is available via the Library.

Full text available via *(Name of Service)*
This link indicates the full-text of the desired article should be available in one of the library’s online journal subscriptions. Click the name of the service to access the article.

This article is available in the University Library *(Library Catalog)*
This article should be shelved in the library, usually located in periodicals/journals collection. (Use the Library Catalog to see the location and if the desired year/volume is available.)

Request a copy of this article via Interlibrary Loan (ILLiad)
We can get a copy for you from another library (usually in 1-3 days).

Printing, Emailing, Downloading Results

Email - will provide a citation in 6th edition APA)
Email - will email a citation (6th edition APA)
To get to the full-text from your email link:
Choose ProQuest Document Link to get to the abstract on ProQuest
At the ProQuest abstract, click Find It! to get to the full article.
Social Services Abstracts: Advanced Tips

Narrowing a Search

Limit To:

Peer Reviewed excludes books, dissertations, book reviews, non-scholarly journals, etc.
Date Range: change All Dates to After this date (e.g. 2002) to get recent research

Add additional terms in the second and third row:
e.g. Child Abuse and therapy

Change the type of search to a narrower search (box to right of search box):
Broadest search: in All Fields search
Narrowest search: in Subject Heading search (best if using "official" terms)

Remove records with unwanted terms by adding “not” before a row

| Example Searches: |
| Limited to: Peer Reviewed published from 2002 - present |
| Anywhere search: | Subject Heading Search: |
| child abuse | child abuse |
| 5900+ results | 4300+ results |
| child abuse and sexual | child abuse and sexual and therapy |
| 1300+ results | 69 results |
| Searching with "not": |
| child abuse | child abuse not sexual |
| 4300+ results | 3000+ results |
| child abuse and therapy not sexual | |
| 97 results |

Broadening a Search

Use the Truncation symbol (*) to search for variants of words
Adolescen* (searches for adolescence, adolescent, adolescents, etc.)
Child* (searches for child, children, childhood, etc.)

Add synonyms of desired terms on the same row of search boxes
Domestic violence or partner abuse or spouse abuse
Subject Headings – Improving Your Search Terms

Subject Headings are "official" terms used by the database to describe a topic. Using subjects often improves the number and relevance of search results.

To Find a Subject Heading:

Displayed at the top of a search results screen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggested subjects</th>
<th>Hide ▲</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug use</td>
<td>*Drug Use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drug abuse AND Adolescents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Clicking the link will display all records with that subject in the database.
Choose "Modify Search" to narrow add the subject to another term (e.g. Family Violence and Mental Health)

Using the Thesaurus

Use the Thesaurus (linked from the Advanced Search in the upper right just above the search boxes) to identify official subject headings on your topic.

If you term appears in the thesaurus, click on it to see more information about that term, including broader and narrower terms. If it says “use for”, use the highlighted term instead.

Example Searches:

Family Violence and Alcoholism are "official" subject terms; domestic violence and alcoholic are not.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Fields search:</th>
<th>Domestic Violence and Alcoholics = 14 results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Fields search</td>
<td>Family Violence and Alcoholism = 79 results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject Headings:</td>
<td>Family Violence and Alcoholism = 31 results focused on the topic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>