

The role of libraries in digital citizenship: a review of the intellectual production literature from 2016 to 2020

Research - Summary

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Abstract

This study deals with a review of the literature on intellectual production about the role of libraries in digital citizenship. The period was determined from 2016 to 2020. The focus was on works in Arabic and English. Several databases were searched to prepare this review. Among the goals that the review sought to achieve identifying Intellectual production on the topic of the role of libraries in digital citizenship, identifying subtopics that were not addressed in the study, and identifying the results and recommendations of studies that address the topic. The results of this review were: The scarcity of Arab intellectual production on the topic of the role of libraries in digital citizenship, and the abundance of foreign intellectual production on the topic of the role of school library specialists in digital citizenship. Among the study's recommendations is the need to focus on studying understudied subtopics, such as the role of national libraries in digital citizenship.

Keywords

digital citizenship, literature review

1. Methodology

1.1 Research Problem or Justification for the Topic:

The term "digital citizenship" has become increasingly common in recent years. Some researchers have explored this topic from the perspective of library science, highlighting the need for a review of the literature on this topic specifically from a library science viewpoint, particularly over the past five years.

1.2 Importance of the Study:

The significance of this study stems from the general importance of scientific reviews or literature surveys, which involve identifying, evaluating, and comparing the intellectual output on a specific subject. This study focuses on the role of libraries in digital citizenship, aiming to identify gaps or subtopics that have not been addressed and to avoid the repetition of existing studies on this subject.

1.3 Study Objectives:

- To identify the intellectual output related to the role of libraries in digital citizenship.
- To compare and evaluate the intellectual output on the role of libraries in digital citizenship.
- To identify subtopics that have not been addressed in the literature.
- To identify the findings of studies on the role of libraries in digital citizenship.
- To review the recommendations made by studies on the role of libraries in digital citizenship.

1.4 Scope and Limitations of the Study:

- Subject Scope: This review covers studies that address the role of libraries in digital citizenship.
- Linguistic Scope: This review includes studies on the role of libraries in digital citizenship in both Arabic and English.

- Time Scope: The review covers studies published between 2016 and 2020.

1.5 Primary Sources:

- Egyptian Knowledge Bank (EKB)
- Al-Manhal Database
- Al-Mandumah Database to verify search results in the EKB in Arabic
- EBSCO Academic Search Complete to verify search results in the EKB in English

2. Preparation Stages:

2.1 Survey of Intellectual Output:

This step involved searching through:

- Egyptian Knowledge Bank (EKB):

- Searching "digital citizenship" as a title + "libraries" as a title resulted in 24 results. After review, only 3 titles were relevant, and the rest were misleading.
- Searching "digital citizenship" as a subject + "libraries" as a title resulted in 10 results, all of which were misleading.
- Searching "digital citizenship" as a title + "libraries" as a subject resulted in 10 results, all of which were misleading.
- Searching "Digital citizenship" as a title + "libraries" as a title resulted in 40 results. After filtering, 20 were found to be completely misleading, 11 covered either libraries or citizenship but not both, 4 were published before 2016, and 3 were in Arabic already reviewed in the Arabic search, leaving only 2 relevant results.
- Searching "Digital citizenship" as a title + "libraries" as a subject resulted in 45 results. After filtering, 25 were unrelated, 7 were published before 2016, 4 were duplicates, and 2 were irrelevant to libraries, leaving 7 relevant results.

- EBSCO Academic Search Complete:

- Initial search using "digital citizenship" yielded 251,762 results.

- Narrowing the search with "digital citizenship + libraries or library or librarian or librarianship + from January 2016 to December 2020" yielded 170 results.

- Al-Manhal Database:

- Searching "digital citizenship" as a title, restricted from 2016-2020, retrieved 13 articles.

- Searching "digital citizenship + libraries" from 2016-2020 retrieved no results.

- Searching "digital citizenship" as a title, restricted from 2016-2020, retrieved 6 articles.

- Searching "digital citizenship + library" from 2016-2020 retrieved no results.

- Searching "digital citizenship + libraries" from 2016-2020 retrieved no results.

- Al-Mandumah Database:

- Searching "libraries" as a title + "digital citizenship" as a title from 2016-2020 retrieved 3 results already retrieved from EKB.

- Searching "libraries" as a subject + "digital citizenship" as a title from 2016-2020 retrieved 3 results, 2 of which were previously retrieved from EKB.

- Searching "libraries" as a title + "digital citizenship" as a subject from 2016-2020 retrieved 2 results already retrieved from EKB.

- Searching "libraries" as a title + "digital citizenship" as a title from 2016-2020 retrieved 3 results already retrieved from EKB.

Filtering Process:

- First Stage:

- Review sources by title to categorize into:

- Sources unrelated to the topic.

- Potentially related sources needing abstract and content review.

- Partially related sources needing detailed review.

- Fully related sources with both libraries and digital citizenship, published between 2016–2020.

- Second Stage:

- Review abstracts of available sources and download those without abstracts for detailed examination to decide their inclusion in the review.

3. Results and Recommendations:

3.1 Findings on the Relationship Between Digital Citizenship and Libraries:

- Maha Mahmoud Muhammad Naji's Study: This study found that the nature of the courses in the library and information science major significantly contributed to shaping students' awareness of various aspects of digital citizenship. Additionally, the study concluded that the duration of digital device usage and the age group of the participants did not impact their level of digital citizenship.

3.2 Findings from the Intellectual Production Literature Review:

- There is a noticeable scarcity of Arab intellectual output concerning the role of libraries in digital citizenship.
- A gap exists between retrieval and verification results in some databases.
- Numerous studies focus on the role of school library specialists in promoting digital citizenship.
- Existing studies are primarily limited to school, public, and academic libraries, with a notable lack of research on other types of libraries, especially National Libraries.

3.3 Recommendations:

3.3.1 Recommendations from Studies Reviewed in the Literature:

- Maha Mahmoud Muhammad Naji: The study recommends spreading the culture of digital citizenship among university youth by introducing a specialized

educational course on digital citizenship and its dimensions, akin to the "Human Rights" course, to be mandatory for all university students.

- Fatima bint Sultan bin Saif Al Jabri: This study suggests developing a unified national plan to teach digital citizenship in schools and universities, incorporating the principles of digital citizenship into the curricula at various educational levels.
- Fatima bint Sultan bin Saif Al Jabri: The study also emphasizes activating the role of public libraries in society to raise awareness about digital citizenship through a series of workshops and lectures conducted by information specialists, supported by technical experts in digital citizenship.

3.3.2 Recommendations from the Literature Review:

- Conduct studies on the role of national libraries in digital citizenship.
- Explore the role of specialized libraries in promoting digital citizenship.
- Examine the significance of open access resources in fostering digital citizenship.
- Investigate the role of virtual, digital, and electronic libraries in enhancing digital citizenship.