

# **Bibliotherapy with children and youth: a bibliometric study / Batya Baal Shem-Taub**

## **Abstract:**

The sources of the following bibliometric research study are articles and chapters of volumes on bibliotherapy as relating to children and youth.

Bibliotherapy is the use of reading stories as a source on enhancing emotional wellbeing. We are referring to the use of this therapy in addition to or exclusive of clinical use for the purpose of enhancing the development of the individual.

In the case of children and youth, the stories stimulate their intellect and feelings as well as provide amusement and increases their curiosity.

Bibliometrics concerns itself with the quantity of writings and the quality of their affect.

This survey will assess the character of Bibliotherapy from 1970-1997.

The questions that will be asked are: When Bibliotherapy should be used with children and youth? On which expertise are the various writings based? What sort of publications contained writings on Bibliotherapy, and what were the sources of the author. From which country and in which language did they gather their information? This thesis contains an analysis of the increase of material, the use of material, the national.

Origin and source language of material and the use of various publications over time. The breadth of the survey includes 180 articles as well as 40 chapters found in publications through out the world from 1970 through 1997. The articles and chapters were gathered from Israel and from abroad via a computer databases system.

The gathering of the above was made possible by Bar Ilan's University library inter-loan system with other libraries.

The system used for the research: each article or chapter was analyzed based on its content and its bibliographical information according to a questionnaire that was created solely for this survey. The result of the above analysis were entered into the statistical system called JUMP,

Important conclusions:

The primary research of the mid 1980's was the major source for articles in the following years. The 1990's have seen a significant decline in primary research as well as of articles on this topic.

The vast majority of information has been published in the United States. The primary language of publication has been English. The other countries that have been publishing on this matter throughout the period of the study have been Great Britain and Canada.

Books totally devoted to this issue have been found only in the United States obviously published in English. Many more publications are distributed in the Great Britain than are produced there, as opposed to the United States which produces much more than is distributed there.

Most articles or publications have only one or two authors.

Most Primary sources are found in books as opposed to journals, dissertations and theses.

There are many where bibliotherapy helps children as well as youth: learning disabilities, dealing with feelings such as anger, fear and difficult events in life such as divorce of parents, physical and emotional abuse suicide, etc...

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