

The reflective practitioner: an introduction to Evidence Based Librarianship

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Session 2. Quality of provided services

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Evidence Based Librarianship / Evidence Based Information Practice: Definitions

1. Evidence Based Librarianship seeks to improve library practice by utilising the best available evidence in conjunction with a pragmatic perspective developed from working experience in librarianship. The best available evidence might be produced from quantitative or qualitative research designs, although EBL encourages more rigorous over less rigorous forms of evidence when making decisions.

J Eldredge USA, 2002

Definitions...

2. Evidence Based Librarianship is a means to improve the profession of librarianship by asking questions, finding, critically appraising and incorporating research evidence from library science (and other disciplines) into daily practice. It also involves encouraging librarians to conduct research.

E Crumley and D Koufogiannakis, Canada, 2004

Definitions...

3. Evidence Based Librarianship is an approach to information science that promotes the collection, interpretation and integration of valid, important and applicable user-reported, librarian-observed, and research-derived evidence. **The best available evidence, based on user needs and preferences, is applied to improve the quality of professional judgements**

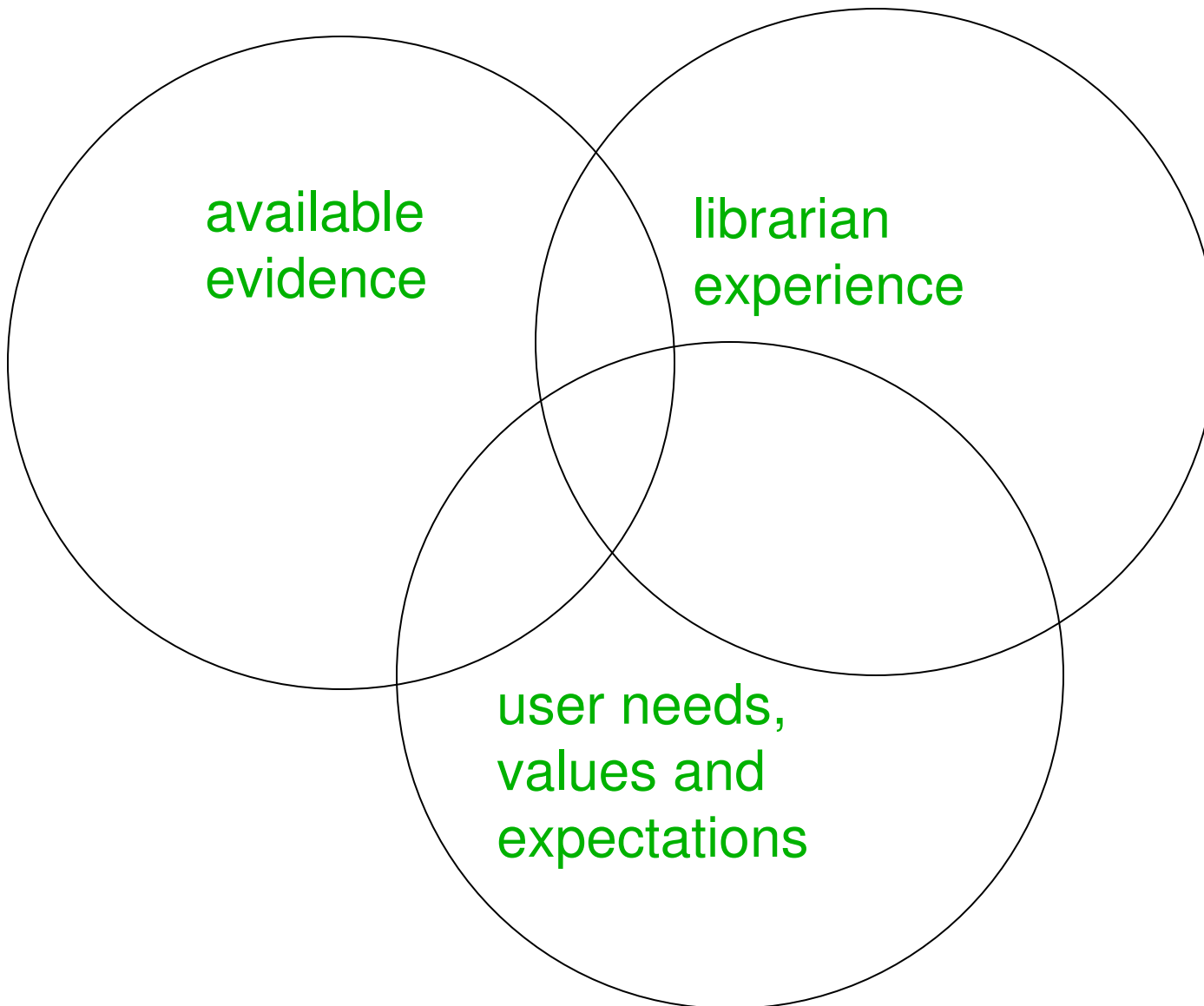
A McKibbin, Canada, 1996 and A Booth, UK, 2000

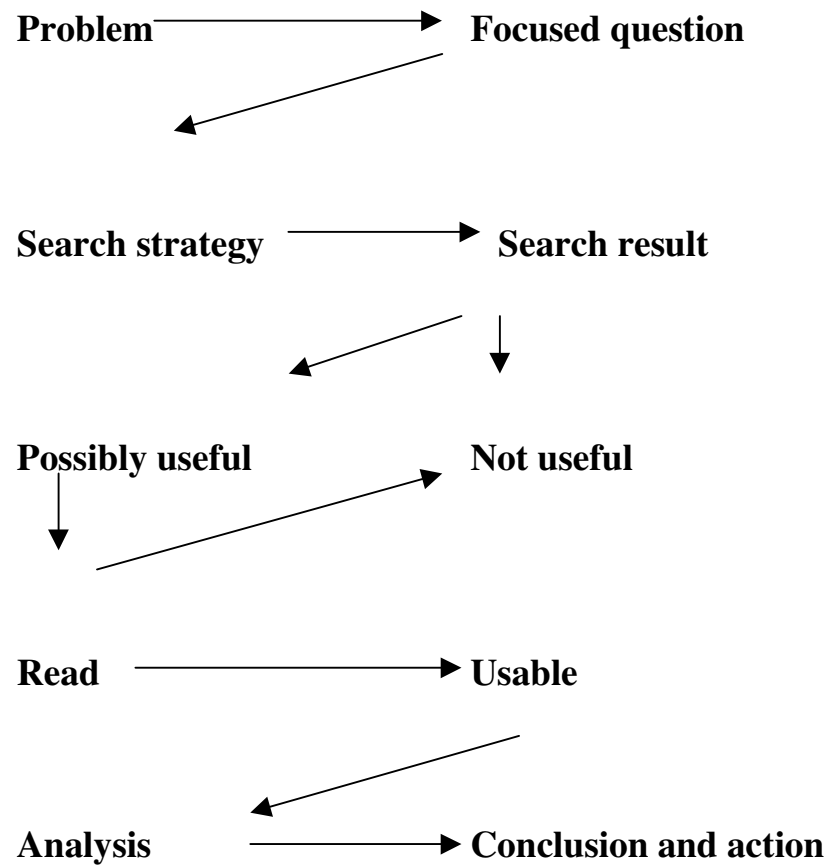
Definitions : short version

...the best available evidence, moderated by user needs and preferences, is applied to improve the quality of professional judgements...

... critically appraising...

... it also involves encouraging librarians to conduct research...





The /short/ process in EBL

- Define the problem
- Find the evidence
- Appraise the evidence
- Apply results of appraisal

**We librarians create our
own knowledge or evidence
base**