

LITERATURE SURVEY

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Review genres (e.g., literature review, critical review) are useful for developing students' abilities to evaluate literature critically; they have been widely used in university contexts as assessment tasks. The 'news and views' article is one such review genre which is often included in science journals and which is increasingly used as an assessment task in graduate science courses. Published 'News and views' articles provide a synopsis and critique of a research article. Usually written by a senior researcher, they provide a good exemplar of critique.

You asked if a researcher can use newspaper articles for the literature review in a research paper?

The answer is yes, but to use them with great caution, and only if it is relevant and at a minimum. The writers in the newspapers' articles are unlikely to be the researchers themselves reporting on the research they have undertaken. Why? It is because newspapers are not the suitable forum/avenue to report on a technical research and will not be accessed by the research community. The proper avenue/forum for actual research reporting and where the research community would access would be research journals.

The writers for the articles in newspaper are more likely to report some news of research being conducted and perhaps a brief summary of the findings of the research, even if at that. As such, the contents of the newspaper articles are perhaps about the researchers or headlining the news about the type

of research being conducted and aims and objectives, so it is not likely to be a technical reporting or have much scientific details, unlike a research article published in a research journal.

Bear in mind that news reports or articles of any community's undertakings (research or community or political events) are generally written in a popular writing style in order to grab the interest of the general public in order to sell newspaper and not to attract the attentions serious researchers. The writers of these articles are unlikely to be the researchers who have conducted the research and the contents are not much use for a research paper for research journals. In the articles, the reporters may insert their own comments, opinions or opinions of other such as politicians, and those of lay people using anecdotal evidence with no real scientific evidence based on research. As such, using these types of literature source may not do for your research papers.