

History of Social Work Research

Summary of Data Cleaning Procedures

Overview

This document summarizes data cleaning procedures of the data file processed by the `ebscoBWR` function. It should be noted that the `ebscoBWR` function merged the search results from the first- and second-level searches performed on the three databases (psycInfo, Social Science Abstracts, and Social Work Abstract) hosted by the EbscoPlatform. This function merged all the search results, transformed the data into a structured data file, and removed all duplicate article records. No further transformations or cleaning was performed by the `ebscoBWR` function. Provided below are basic descriptive summaries of the results from the full search before further cleaning.

The main file for analysis is `fullDF.R`, and a separate file is just for psycInfo `psycInfoDF.R`. The same cleaning procedures need to be performed on both data files prior to analysis.

Initialization of workspace

```
# Clear workspace
rm(list=ls())

# Load required packages
library(ggplot2)
library(dplyr)

# Read data files
#load("/Users/beperron/Git/SocialWorkResearch/Data/psycInfoDF.R")
load("/Users/beperron/Git/SocialWorkResearch/Data/fullDF.R")

# Set the working directory
setwd("/Users/beperron/Git/SocialWorkResearch/Data")

# Strip leading and trailing white-space on all records
full.df$record <- stringr::str_trim(full.df$record, side = "both")
```

Pre-processing summary

Provided below is a summary of the datafile processed by `ebscoBWR` function before any cleaning procedures specifically for this project were employed, with the exception of resolving spelling errors or differences. For example, *Social Work With Groups* was exported as a separate journal than *Social Work with Groups* (note the capitalization difference in the word *with*.)

```
number.of.articles <- length(which(full.df$attributes == "article"))
range.of.years <- range(full.df$record[full.df$attributes == "pubYear"])
```

```
# Number of articles
cat(number.of.articles)
```

```
## 41165
```

```
# Range of years
cat(range.of.years)
```

```
## 1914 2015
```

	record	N
1	Administration in Social Work	908
2	Affilia	214
3	American Journal of Preventive Medicine	6
4	Australian Social Work	301
5	Behavior Modification	6
6	Brain and Cognition	13
7	British Journal of Psychiatric Social Work	67
8	British Journal of Social Work	1454
9	Canadian Journal of Community Mental Health	9
10	Canadian Journal on Aging	4
11	Canadian Social Work	52
12	Canadian Social Work Review	147
13	Child & Adolescent Social Work Journal	897
14	Child & Family Social Work	618
15	Children & Schools	267
16	Clinical Social Work Journal	1230
17	Computers in Human Services	209
18	Contemporary Rural Social Work (Electronic only)	33
19	Early Child Development and Care	12
20	Early Education and Development	7
21	Employee Assistance Quarterly	5
22	Ethics and Social Welfare	133
23	Eugenics & Social Welfare Bull.	2
24	Eugenics and Social Welfare Bulletin	1
25	European Journal of Social Work	566
26	Evaluation and Program Planning	18
27	Families in Society	1759
28	General Hospital Psychiatry	2
29	Health & Social Work	1467
30	Hospital Social Service	4
31	Human Service Organizations	8
32	Indian Journal of Psychiatric Social Work	31
33	Indian Journal of Social Work	366
34	International Conference of Social Work	2
35	International Journal of Social Welfare	399
36	International Social Work	1333
37	Issues in Social Work Education	1
38	Journal of Analytic Social Work	47
39	Journal of Applied Behavioral Science	9
40	Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling	6
41	Journal of Applied Social Sciences	47

42	Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work	82
43	Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology	8
44	Journal of Comparative Social Welfare	66
45	Journal of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity in Social Work	290
46	Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work	174
47	Journal of Family Social Work	312
48	Journal of Gerontological Social Work	1572
49	Journal of HIV/AIDS & Social Services	241
50	Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment	881
51	Journal of Independent Social Work	100
52	Journal of Multicultural Social Work	21
53	Journal of Nonverbal Behavior	4
54	Journal of Progressive Human Services	106
55	Journal of Psychiatric Social Work	69
56	Journal of Psychosocial Oncology	473
57	Journal of Religion & Spirituality in Social Work	227
58	Journal of Social Casework	101
59	Journal of Social Service Research	883
60	Journal of Social Welfare	25
61	Journal of Social Work	290
62	Journal of Social Work & Human Sexuality	143
63	Journal of Social Work Education	1104
64	Journal of Social Work Practice	489
65	Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions	389
66	Journal of Social Work Process	9
67	Journal of Social Work Research and Evaluation	99
68	Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics	50
69	Journal of Social Work in Disability & Rehabilitation	153
70	Journal of Social Work in End-of-Life & Palliative Care	170
71	Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare	1392
72	Journal of Teaching in Social Work	558
73	Journal of Technology in Human Services	317
74	Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research	67
75	Learning Disabilities Research & Practice	6
76	Maatskaplike Werk/Social Work	1
77	Medical Social Work	3
78	New York State Department of Social Welfare, Division Publication	1
79	PROFILE Issues in Teachers' Professional Development	51
80	Pediatric Social Work	5
81	Pennsylvania Social Work	1
82	Practice	193
83	Prevention in Human Services	187
84	Proceedings of the National Conference of Social Work	26
85	Psychoanalytic Social Work	164
86	Psychotherapy	12
87	Qualitative Social Work	321
88	Reflections	847
89	Research on Social Work Practice	1301
90	Revista de Asistentia Sociala (Social Work Review)	263
91	Rural Social Work	39
92	School Social Work Journal	168
93	School Social Work Quarterly	1
94	Smith College Studies in Social Work	1194
95	Social Casework	1180

96	Social Development	747
97	Social Development Issues	416
98	Social Service	1
99	Social Service Department, Presbyterian Hospital, New York	1
100	Social Service Monographs	1
101	Social Service Review	1291
102	Social Work	3036
103	Social Work & Christianity	206
104	Social Work Education	966
105	Social Work Research	629
106	Social Work Research & Abstracts	152
107	Social Work Technique	27
108	Social Work Today	1
109	Social Work With Groups	1031
110	Social Work Yearbook	13
111	Social Work and Social Sciences Review	173
112	Social Work in Education	89
113	Social Work in Health Care	1536
114	Social Work in Mental Health	331
115	Social Work in Public Health	209
116	Systems Research and Behavioral Science	6
117	Teaching and Teacher Education	4
118	The British Journal of Social Work	459
119	The Clinical Supervisor	11
120	The Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work	262
121	The Scientific Review of Mental Health Practice	77
122	University of Chicago Social Service Monograph	1

Data cleaning

Inspection of the data indicated notable delays in indexing for the years 2014 and 2015. Therefore, these years were excluded from the current study. Thus, this study includes journals indexed through the end of 2013.

Year specification

```
years <- c("2014", "2015")
ebsco.remove <- full.df[full.df$record %in% years, ]
ebsco.remove <- ebsco.remove[, "articleID"]
full.df <- full.df[!(full.df$articleID %in% ebsco.remove),]
```

Exclusion of journals not meeting supplemental search terms

The search for journals involved a two-stage process. It began by extracting all records from journals based on the social work journal list of Hodge and L (APA cite). Journals were excluded if they did not contain one of the major search terms from the supplemental list. The majority of these journals were captured in the supplemental search query because the journal used one of the supplemental search terms in a special issue. The mission and scope of journals were also reviewed when it was unclear whether the journal was specific to social work research (e.g., *The Clinical Supervisor*). The supplemental search terms included:

- social work
- social welfare
- social casework (or social case work)
- social service
- human service
- social development
- social environment

```
exclusions.1 <- c(
  "American Journal of Preventive Medicine",
  "Behavior Modification",
  "Brain and Cognition",
  "Canadian Journal of Community Mental Health",
  "Canadian Journal on Aging",
  "Early Child Development and Care",
  "Early Education and Development",
  "Employee Assistance Quarterly",
  "Evaluation and Program Planning",
  "General Hospital Psychiatry",
  "International Review of Social Research",
  "Journal of Applied Behavioral Science",
  "Journal of Applied Rehabilitation Counseling",
  "Journal of Applied Social Sciences",
  "Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology",
  "Journal of Health & Human Services Administration",
  "Journal of Nonverbal Behavior",
  "Journal of Psychosomatic Research",
  "Learning Disabilities Research & Practice",
  "PROFILE Issues in Teachers' Professional Development",
  "Psychotherapy",
  "Systems Research and Behavioral Science",
  "Teaching and Teacher Education",
  "The Scientific Review of Mental Health Practice",
  "The Clinical Supervisor")

ebsco.remove <- full.df[full.df$record %in% exclusions.1, ]
ebsco.remove <- ebsco.remove[, "articleID"]
full.df <- full.df[!(full.df$articleID %in% ebsco.remove),]

rm(ebsco.remove)
```

Exclusions of social work publications

Exclusions were then made any of the three criteria

- Journals that did not have clear evidence of a peer review process. This was based on a review of the journals mission, scope, and whether an editorial board or group could be identified.
- Journal titles that did not have any clear publication history (e.g., due to an indexing error). This exclusion was based on errors in data entry.
- Journals that did not have at least one full year of indexed records (except journals that subsequently changed titles). This exclusionary criterion was consistent with the working definition of a social work journal.

```

exclusions.2 <- c(
  "Eugenics and Social Welfare Bulletin",
  "Eugenics & Social Welfare Bull.",
  "Issues in Social Work Education",
  "Hospital Social Service", #Confirmed nursing journal
  "International Conference of Social Work",
  "Journal of Multicultural Social Work",
  "Journal of Social Work Process",
  "Journal of Teaching in Social Work",
  "Maatskaplike Werk/Social Work",
  "Medical Social Work",
  "New York State Department of Social Welfare, Division Publication",
  "Pediatric Social Work",
  "Pennsylvania Social Work",
  "Proceedings of the National Conference of Social Work","Social Service",
  "Social Service Department, Presbyterian Hospital, New York",
  "Social Service Monographs",
  "School Social Work Quarterly",
  "Social Work Today",
  "Social Work Technique",
  "Social Work Today",
  "Social Work Yearbook",
  "The New Social Worker",
  "Pennsylvania Social Work",
  "University of Chicago Social Service Monograph"
)

ebsco.remove <- full.df[full.df$record %in% exclusions.2, ]
ebsco.remove <- ebsco.remove[, "articleID"]
full.df <- full.df[!(full.df$articleID %in% ebsco.remove),]

rm(ebsco.remove, exclusions.2)

```

Title merging

Some social work journals changed titles over their history. For example, *Families in Society* had three titles that preceded the current title: *Social Casework*, *Journal of Social Casework*, and *The Family*. The database that contributed the largest number of articles to the study database indexed the majority of journal titles under the journal's current name, and provided an additional data field for the historical name. However, historical names from Social Science Abstracts and Social Work Abstracts were not merged with the current name. Thus, the last step of the data cleaning procedures was to conduct these merges.

```

full.df$record <- ifelse(full.df$record ==
  "The British Journal of Social Work",      # Old title
  "British Journal of Social Work",          # New title
  full.df$record)

full.df$record <- ifelse(full.df$record ==
  "Computers in Human Services",             # Old title
  "Journal of Technology in Human Services", # New title
  full.df$record)

```

```

full.df$record <- ifelse(full.df$record ==
  "The Family" | full.df$record ==      # Old title
  "Journal of Social Casework" | full.df$record ==  # Old title
  "Social Casework",                    # Old title
  "Families in Society",                # New title
  full.df$record)

full.df$record <- ifelse(full.df$record ==
  "Social Work in Education",           # Old title
  "Children & Schools",                 # New title
  full.df$record)

```

Coverage via Hodge article

```

hodge <- readLines("/Users/beperron/Git/SocialWorkResearch/search_specifications/hodge.txt", n = -1)

unique.titles <- filter(full.df, attributes == "journal") %>%
  group_by(record) %>%
  summarise(
    N = n())
print.data.frame(unique.titles, rowNames=FALSE)

```

Post-processing summary

- to do ... summary with hodge list

Joining by: "articleID"

	title	first	last	n	H
	Administration in Social Work	1977	2013	909	Y
	Affilia	2007	2013	188	Y
	Australian Social Work	2006	2013	252	Y
	British Journal of Psychiatric Social Work	1953	1970	69	N
	British Journal of Social Work	1970	2013	1840	Y
	Canadian Social Work	1999	2012	52	Y
	Canadian Social Work Review	2005	2013	142	Y
	Child & Adolescent Social Work Journal	1984	2013	859	N
	Child & Family Social Work	1997	2013	573	N
	Children & Schools	1982	2013	333	N
	Clinical Social Work Journal	1973	2013	1193	Y
	Contemporary Rural Social Work (Electronic only)	2010	2013	27	N
	Ethics and Social Welfare	2009	2013	115	N
	European Journal of Social Work	2000	2013	489	Y
	Families in Society	1946	2013	3023	Y
	Health & Social Work	1976	2013	1444	N
	Indian Journal of Psychiatric Social Work	1972	1977	31	N
	Indian Journal of Social Work	1941	1986	369	Y
	International Journal of Social Welfare	2000	2013	393	Y

International Social Work	1975	2013	1250	Y
Journal of Analytic Social Work	1993	1998	49	N
Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work	2005	2013	78	Y
Journal of Comparative Social Welfare	2006	2012	66	Y
Journal of Ethnic & Cultural Diversity in Social Work	2000	2013	45	N
Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work	2004	2013	154	N
Journal of Family Social Work	1995	2013	305	Y
Journal of Gerontological Social Work	1979	2013	1517	Y
Journal of HIV/AIDS & Social Services	2005	2013	218	Y
Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment	1997	2013	816	Y
Journal of Independent Social Work	1986	1991	101	N
Journal of Progressive Human Services	2000	2013	99	Y
Journal of Psychiatric Social Work	1952	1955	70	N
Journal of Psychosocial Oncology	1996	2013	438	Y
Journal of Religion & Spirituality in Social Work	2004	2013	201	N
Journal of Social Service Research	1977	2013	836	Y
Journal of Social Welfare	1975	1983	26	N
Journal of Social Work	1964	2013	265	Y
Journal of Social Work & Human Sexuality	1982	1993	144	N
Journal of Social Work Education	1990	2013	1024	Y
Journal of Social Work Practice	1983	2013	459	Y
Journal of Social Work Practice in the Addictions	2001	2013	369	Y
Journal of Social Work Research and Evaluation	2000	2005	99	Y
Journal of Social Work Values and Ethics	2004	2012	50	Y
Journal of Social Work in Disability & Rehabilitation	2001	2013	155	N
Journal of Social Work in End-of-Life & Palliative Care	2005	2013	161	N
Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare	1974	2013	1363	Y
Journal of Technology in Human Services	1985	2013	513	N
Journal of the Society for Social Work and Research	2010	2013	66	N
Practice	2005	2013	176	N
Prevention in Human Services	1981	1993	193	N
Psychoanalytic Social Work	1999	2013	154	Y
Qualitative Social Work	2002	2013	292	Y
Reflections	1995	2013	851	N
Research on Social Work Practice	1991	2013	1206	Y
Revista de Asistentă Socială (Social Work Review)	2010	2013	221	N
Rural Social Work	2000	2004	39	Y
School Social Work Journal	2002	2013	156	Y
Smith College Studies in Social Work	1930	2013	1181	Y
Social Development	1992	2013	699	N
Social Development Issues	1978	2013	404	Y
Social Service Review	1927	2013	1278	Y
Social Work	1948	2013	3001	Y
Social Work & Christianity	2005	2013	195	Y
Social Work Education	1999	2013	879	Y
Social Work Research	1994	2013	607	Y
Social Work Research & Abstracts	1982	1993	156	N
Social Work With Groups	1978	2013	1000	N
Social Work and Social Sciences Review	1989	2013	177	Y
Social Work in Health Care	1975	2013	1492	Y
Social Work in Mental Health	2002	2013	303	Y
Social Work in Public Health	2007	2013	196	Y
The Journal of Baccalaureate Social Work	1995	2013	262	N


```
# Number of articles  
cat(number.of.articles)
```

```
## 38096
```

```
# Range of years  
cat(range.of.years)
```

```
## 1927 2013
```