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| **WRITING A LITERATURE REVIEW**  **Guiding questions to support planning, revising, and refining of a literature review \*** |

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|  | **What is the focus and aim of your review? Who is your audience?**  The review focuses on cyber on understanding the characteristics and strategies of cyberbullying to develop targeted practices and methods to reduce cyberbullying. The audiences are policymakers and internet users, especially those vulnerable to cyberbullying. |
|  | **Why is there a need for your review? Why is it significant?**  The review is appropriate because the proliferation of social networking platforms has increased the prevalence of cyberbullying because they provide numerous channels that cyberbullies utilize to bully others. The review is significant because it explores how the existing scholarly studies have explored cyberbullying, including the strengths and limitations of these studies, to explicitly outline the gaps that the current research strives to address. |
|  | **What is the context of the topic or issue? What perspective do you take? What framework do you use to synthesize the literature?**  Online social networks provide sufficient contexts for understanding cyberbullying. I will take the perspective of an educator to create awareness of cyberbullying and recommend strategies for reducing its prevalence. The routine activity theory is an ideal theoretical framework for exploring the literature because it demonstrates how interactions between motivated perpetrators and innocent targets intensify cyberbullying (Leukfeldt and Yar, 2016 p.1). |
|  | **How did you locate and select sources for inclusion in the review?**  The sources were located from scholarly databases such as Google Scholar, Ebscohost, and Semantic scholar. Similarly, internet searches also help locate sources for the review. |
|  | **How is your review structured?**  A topical order or structure will be used in the review. This structure guarantees that the review explores the main issues/topics in cyberbullying and depicts the relationships between the issues and the current research focus. |
|  | **What are the main findings in the literature on this topic?**  The literature demonstrates that the advancements in the Internet, especially the rise of social media platforms have intensified cyberbullying (Barlett *et al*., 2018 p.147). They also recognize that addressing cyberbullying requires extensive collaboration from policymakers, mental health experts, educators, and technology experts because it offers extensive insights into the problem, including its impacts, how it is orchestrated, and how to minimize it (Palomares and Wingate, 2019 p.253). Similarly, the literature demonstrates that increasing awareness of technology best practices and introducing empathy training reduces the victimization of individuals on the internet and social networking platforms (Schultze-Krumbholz *et al*., 2015 p.147). |
|  | **What are the main strengths and limitations of this literature?**  The primary strength of the literature is that it recognizes that cyberbullying is a problem and provides an extensive analysis of where the problem is rooted and how it is orchestrated (Tozzo *et al*., 2022 p.1). Similarly, the literature proposes both reactive and proactive approaches to cyberbullying reduction. Despite its strengths, the findings in this literature cannot be generalized because most of them focus on minimizing cyberbullying among minors rather than the whole population. |
|  | **Are there any discrepancies in this literature?**  There are significant discrepancies in the prevalence of cyberbullying rates reported in the literature. Discrepancies also exist in their analysis/evaluation of the proposed cyberbullying reduction strategies' effectiveness. This implies that there is no consensus on how the research explores the prevalence of cyberbullying and explains the efficiency of the proposed solutions. |
|  | **What conclusions do your draw from the review? What do you argue needs to be done as an outcome of the review?**  Based on the review, one can conclude that cyberbullying remains on the rise despite the proactive and reactive approaches tailored to spearhead its reduction. As such, further analysis should be conducted to determine the effectiveness of intervention programs and reduction strategies to help determine their limitations so that they can be tailored to appropriately address cyberbullying. |

\* As with other sets of guiding questions in this book, select those questions that are relevant to your context, add others as appropriate, and decide the order in which you will address them to communicate effectively with your audience.

*Source*: Healey, M., Matthews, K., & Cook-Sather, A. (2020) *Writing about learning and teaching in higher education: Creating and contributing to scholarly conversations**across a range of genres*. Center for Engaged Learning Open-Access Books, Elon University. 142-152.

**Reference**

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