Resources for Research

Mount Saint Mary College

Prof. Lee-Gonyea, CRI/SOC 225 September 6, 2011
Learning Objectives

- review research resources
- review effective strategies for searching and accessing criminology resources
- live demo
Research resources

- Books
- Databases of journal articles

Wilson Web

EBSCO Information Services

ProQuest
Anyone can publish anything on the Internet

Millions and millions of hits
  - Which are accurate and valid?
  - Requires your time to evaluate

Does not include information found in library databases of scholarly journals
Databases are key

- Premium information resources
  - journal and newspaper articles
  - scholarly information from published works
- Searchable
- Often contain full-text articles
How to start?

- Put the problem in the form of a question
- Search
- Examine your results
- Revise your search question if needed
What is the problem?
“I need to know about females who are victims in violence from partners they’re intimate with.”

What is the question?
“What are some specifics regarding female victims of intimate partner violence?”

What are the question’s concepts?
1: female victims 2: intimate partner violence
3: family violence 4: domestic violence
5: spousal violence 6: acquaintance violence
General Rule

Start big then narrow down

Is the reason for 0 results because there is nothing in the ______ database or (more likely) were the wrong words used?
Review

- Search databases (not Google)
- Overview of criminology library guide
- Turn problem into question
- On to the live demo!!!
Thank you

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This presentation available online at http://libraryguides.msmc.edu/criminology