

Analytical Review Assignment

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Analytical Review

The literature review titled, "Reported Educator Concerns Regarding Cyberspace Curricula" by Camilia Anne Czubaj was very comprehensive in the way it illustrates the many different issues and concerns surrounding the implementation of online technological tools within a traditional classroom setting. The introduction of terms such as "cyberphobia" and "technopathology" was a great way of creating a foundation that helped to set the contextual dialog for this informative literature review. The following personal commentary focuses on different aspects of the review from its introduction to its conclusion and everything in between.

Introduction

The purpose of the review was made quite clear to the reader within the first few sentences of the introduction. The studies that were referenced within this literature review addresses the valid concerns of educators who view cyberspace curricula with apprehension and resistance. Within the introduction section of the review, an organizational outline is established with the use of brief points of interest that provide the reader with an overview glimpse of what will be discussed over the course of the review. The method for selection of reviewed materials was clearly described by using the five (5) major categorical concerns outlined by the study's researchers, in addition to, other similar articles on the same topic.

Organization and Writing Qualities

There are definite sub-headings used to group the literature according to themes. I greatly appreciated the author's thoughtful consideration in breaking the literature up in to structured and manageable groups (i.e. teacher training, technology development, school-budgets, assessment practices, et al). This organizational approach assists the reader in focusing in on the different

themes of the subject topic without having to muddle through what appears to be an endless array of lengthy paragraphs. While the transitions between sections was not exactly seamless, in my personal opinion, I do believe that the storyline was relatively easy to follow due to the grouping of sub-topics within the literature review. The headings definitely help to create a sense of order out of chaos.

Presentation of Studies Being Reviewed

With words such as "*supports*", "*believes*", "*feels*", "*reported*", and "*suggests*", there is a sense of what the author's position is with regard to items introduced within the literature. However, in this literature review, the reader is presented with a summary of ideas and opinions with very little, if any, empirical evidence to support the author's asserted beliefs and notions. The only mention of statistical data collection that remotely addresses the validity associated with empirical research, would be the section on *teacher training*. There was enough information to give the reader enough background to understand the statistical methodology used as a means of substantiating the author's findings against his or her opinions. Having read the lead sentence of 5 or 6 successive paragraphs within the literature review, I would say that there is enough information compiled that would add evidence and credence to the storyline.

The statements from these lead sentences were clear and concise, utilizing words that lecture to different aspects of the subject topic yet relative in its overarching similarities. I believe readers would get the general gist of the storyline with sentences such as "computers are altering today's societies", "many researchers reported in their studies and many authors stated in their articles the need for computer training by educators", "in addition to teacher training in the use of technology, authors reported that teachers should become an integral part of the

technology development process", and "teachers are reluctant to replace traditional paper-based assessments, such as tests, with newer, computer-based assessment strategies" (Czubaj, 2004).

Evidence of Analysis, Synthesis, Critique

The author does not go beyond summarizing the studies. There is no evidence of personal opinion or personal bias with regard to the studies referenced within the literature review. There is no evidence of analysis and critique of individual studies. The issues were clearly identified within this literature review. The summary section effectively recaps the introduction of the review by restating the issues that are cause for concern regarding the cyberspace curricula.

Conclusion to the Review

Without a doubt, the author provides a well-planned summary that pulls together the review in a meaningful way that reiterates the different points presented throughout the review. The summary wrap-up was inclusive of only those points that were discussed within the review and nothing more. This provides a form of symmetry that balances both sides of the literary scale. In the end, there was no suggestions made by the author for additional research that needs to be conducted in the future. I suspect that the author felt there was more than enough data to validate the claims and assertions made by the group of researchers in this literature review.

Reference

Czubaj, C. (2004). Literature review: Reported educator concerns regarding cyberspace curricula. *Education*, 124(4), 676-681. Retrieved from Academic Search Premier.