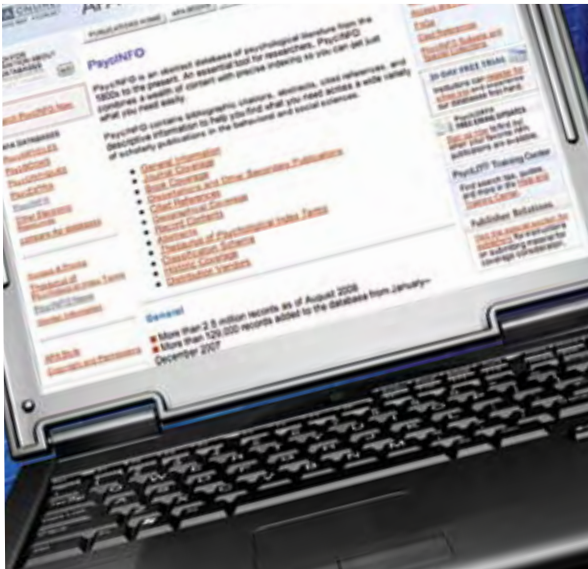




AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

PsycINFO NEWS

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The PsycINFO Department and Web 2.0

The American Psychological Association (APA) website, part of our face to the world, notes that as the largest association of psychologists worldwide, it is APA's mission to "advance the creation, communication, and application of psychological knowledge to benefit society and improve people's lives." That's a big responsibility and those are impressive goals, and PsycINFO plays an integral role in the communication and application of that shared knowledge. PsycINFO creates and supports APA's five databases, PsycINFO®, PsycARTICLES®, PsycBOOKS®, PsycEXTRA®, and PsycCRITIQUES®. In addition, the department manages customer relations for electronic products, liaises with third party vendors for content and technical issues, and manages

copyright, permissions, and trademarks for APA products. We interact with our customer base in many ways—phone and fax, postal mail and email, conference and publication, webinar and face-to-face—using new technologies as they have evolved to increase and strengthen that ability to communicate. These days, communication means also taking advantage of the resources available under the umbrella term Web 2.0.

Though the term has been widely used since 2004—an eternity in web time—Web 2.0 definitions continue to grow and change. One definition, taken appropriately enough from *Wikipedia*, itself an expression of Web 2.0, is "Web 2.0 is a living term describing changing trends in the use of World Wide Web technology and web design that aims to enhance creativity, information sharing, collaboration and functionality of the web." The term covers a crazy quilt of programs, sites, and applications that grows (like *Spores*, a game released in September that condenses the spectrum of evolution into an interactive entertainment experience) and takes on new forms: podcasts, blogs, social networks, wikis, widgets, micro-blogging, virtual worlds, data mash-ups, and RSS feeds.

In this issue of the PsycINFO News, we hear from Anne Wade, the winner of the 2008 APA Award for Excellence in Librarianship about innovative use of web-based technology. In addition, we'll take a first look at two of PsycINFO's new initiatives: a Facebook presence and the PsycCRITIQUES Blog. We'll end by asking you to weigh in on what technologies you're using by responding to a few questions in the final page and sending it the old-fashioned way—by email. ■

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Supporting Active Learning Through Innovative Uses of Technology

Anne Wade and Philip C. Abrami

Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance,
Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec



Currently school is too often a place that disengages learners, that fails to encourage honest self-assessment, and where learning and evaluation are not meaningful acts of improvement but detached and punitive symbols of failure. If we are to revolutionize and dramatically enhance education, it will require engaging students and getting them to think meaningfully and strategically about learning, especially the learning of core competencies such as literacy skills. Students must become active, self-regulated learners capable of dealing with complex problems in innovative and imaginative ways.

At the Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance (CSLP), a research center of excellence based at Concordia University in Montreal, researchers are attempting to address these challenges through innovative uses of web-based technology. This year, the CSLP will launch innovative educational software titled the **Learning Toolkit (LTK)**. The LTK will consist of three interrelated, evidence-based tools that together give teachers and learners important assistance in developing and enhancing essential educational competencies. They are powerful and flexible tools that supplement and support classroom instruction. Each tool has a unique focus and strength, but they work together to enhance dramatically the development of essential competencies. **ABRACADABRA** is an acronym for “A Balanced Reading Approach for Canadians Designed to Achieve

Best Results for All.” ABRACADABRA contains interactive alphabetic, fluency, comprehension, and writing activities linked to digital stories to promote basic literacy skills among emerging readers. **ePEARL** is an acronym for “Electronic Portfolio Encouraging Active Reflective Learning.” ePEARL is a bilingual, multimedia container that supports the process of literacy development and self-regulation by encouraging goal setting, reflection, conferencing, and continuous improvement throughout school. **ISIS-21**, named after the Egyptian goddess of magic and giver of life, is an acronym for “Inquiry Strategies for the Information Society in the Twenty-first Century.” ISIS-21 is being designed to teach the core competencies of information literacy, including the identification, evaluation, and use of information. The LTK is available without charge and provides just-in-time multimedia and scaffolded feedback to support student learning and teacher professional development.

ABRACADABRA and ePEARL have already been the focus of intensive studies resulting in highly favorable student achievement gains. We will continue to study the effectiveness of the LTK in the coming years in our quest to learn the extent to which technology can play an important role as a powerful tool in promoting educational change.

For further information on all of these tools please visit: <http://doe.concordia.ca/cslp> under ICT Projects or e-mail wada@education.concordia.ca.

Become a Fan on Facebook!



PsychINFO is pleased to announce the launch of our official APA PsycNET® Facebook page. This new presence on the popular social networking site provides us an opportunity to connect with customers.

Content currently on our site includes information on our products, tutorials to help you get the most from those products, a discussion board, and information on upcoming events.

We will continue to provide information about enhancements and create a forum for Facebook members to ask questions or leave feedback.

Visit APA PsycNET's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/APA-PsycNET/16466191558> and see everything that's available!



PsycCRITIQUES Blog

Many of you are already familiar with Dr. Danny Wedding’s work as the editor of PsycCRITIQUES. Now he will be blogging as well. The PsycCRITIQUES Blog went live on September 3, 2008. We launched the blog to serve as a forum for readers to discuss and comment on books, films, and APA videos.

Go to <http://psycritiquesblog.apa.org> and check out the first blog entry entitled “Do Violent Media Games Really Contribute to Youth Violence?” Dr. Wedding looked at the review of two books that focus on youth violence and video games. The books *Grand Theft Childhood: The Surprising Truth About Violent Video Games* and *What Parents Can Do and Media Violence and Aggression: Science and Ideology* are both reviewed in PsycCRITIQUES by Dr. Christopher Ferguson and provide the basis for the discussion on this timely topic.

Here’s how to join in the conversation:

To post a comment, click on the “Comments” link below the post.



You will be asked to create a TypeKey/TypePad account before you can post. Your name will appear with the comment you post; your email address will not be displayed.

 A screenshot of the "Post a comment" form. The form includes fields for "Name:", "Email Address: (Not displayed with comment.)", and "URL:". There is a checkbox labeled "Remember personal info?". Below these fields is a large text area for "Comments:". At the bottom of the form are "Preview" and "Post" buttons.

The blog is a companion to the PsycCRITIQUES database, which provides up-to-date reviews of current books and films.

If you aren’t familiar with PsycCRITIQUES, the blog will give you a sneak-peak into its weekly release of book and film reviews. PsycCRITIQUES is a searchable database and is a useful resource for many purposes:

- Faculty members read it to quickly identify literature that will be useful for course work.
- Librarians find it valuable for collection development because it is so current.
- Students use it to identify research done over time.
- Practitioners read it to find current practice information.

Please join us and learn about some of the most interesting research in psychology today, and add your voice to the PsycCRITIQUES blog.



In Search of: Facebook and MySpace Use by Children and Adolescents

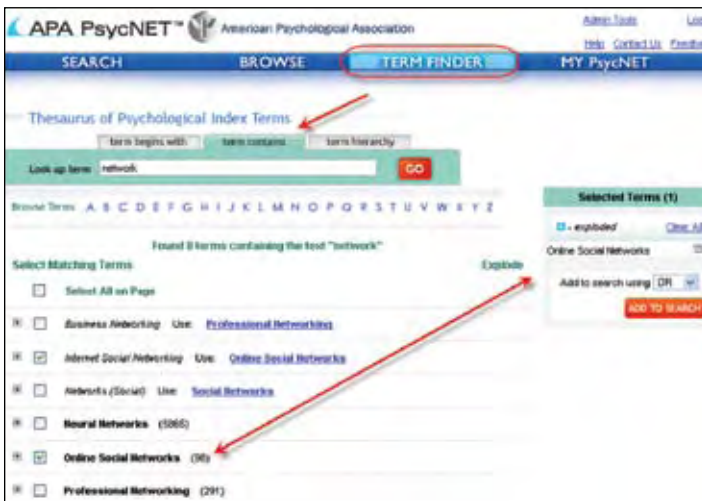
Situation:

Children and adolescents are using social computing sites like Facebook and MySpace to maintain networks with their friends, to develop connections with students preparing to attend college, and to explore new ways of becoming involved in social, political, and religious causes.

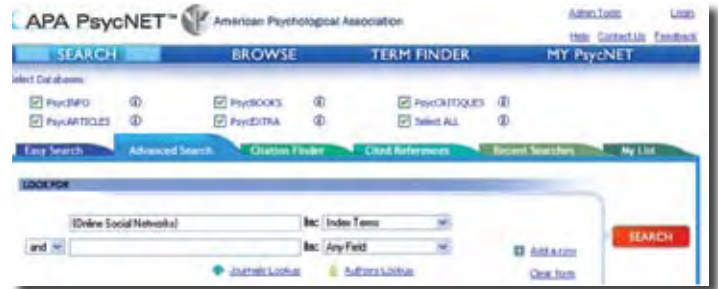
What research is available in PsycINFO that examines the impact of this phenomenon on childhood and adolescent development and school performance?

Build your search:

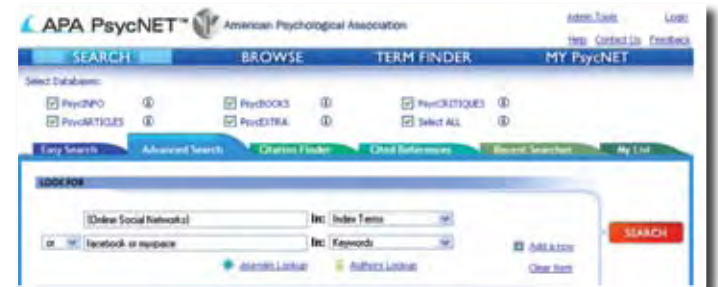
In APA PsycNET, use the Term Finder to find search terms from the *Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms* that are used to index research about Internet social networking. Look for search terms containing the word “network” and choose the terms you want to include in your search:



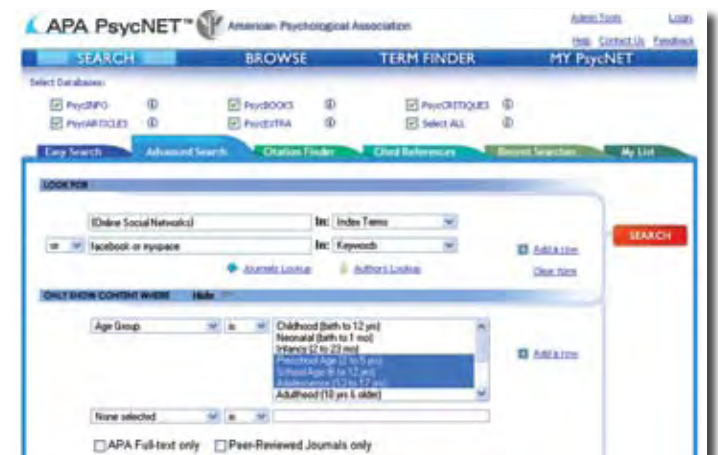
You see that the term **Online Social Networks** is the preferred term for *Internet Social Networking*. By checking the box, the search term is added to your Selected Terms “cart.” By checking the Add to Search button, the index search term *Online Social Networks* is added to the Advanced Search field search box.



In the second search row, choose the OR Boolean operator and search for “facebook” or “myspace” and select Keywords from the drop-down menu. This will search for these words in the article title, natural language field, and Thesaurus search terms field:



Use the Only Show Content Where limit to select Age Group from the drop-down menu, and highlight Preschool Age, School Age, and Adolescence by selecting each and holding down the shift key. Click Search.



Your 30 results include research published in peer-reviewed journals in PsycINFO, PsycARTICLES and material published in PsycEXTRA, which contains gray literature from hard-to-find sources.

Here is a sampling of titles, including journal articles, videos and magazine articles:

Magnuson, M. J., & Dundas, L. (2008). Gender differences in "social portraits" reflected in MySpace profiles. <i>CyberPsychology & Behavior, 11</i> , 239-241. doi: 10.1089/cyeb.2007.0039
Aratani, Lori (2008). When Mom or Dad asks to be a Facebook "friend"
Hinduja, S., & Patchin, J. W. (2008). Personal information of adolescents on the Internet: A quantitative content analysis of MySpace. <i>Journal of Adolescence, 31</i> , 125-146. doi: 10.1016/j.adolescence.2007.05.004
(2008). <i>CyberEthics</i> .
DeAngelis, T. (2007). Children and the Internet: Creating a place for MySpace.
Lange, P. G. (2007). Publicly private and privately public: Social networking on YouTube. <i>Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication, 13</i> , 361-380.
Woodruff, S. I., Conway, T. L., Edwards, C. C., Elliott, S. P., & Crittenden, J. (2007). Evaluation of an Internet virtual world chat room for adolescent smoking cessation. <i>Addictive Behaviors, 32</i> , 1769-1786. doi: 10.1016/j.addbeh.2006.12.008



Nominate a Librarian or Allied Professional for the American Psychological Association's Excellence in Librarianship Award

The American Psychological Association's Excellence in Librarianship Award was created to recognize an outstanding contribution to psychology and behavioral sciences librarianship. The award, which consists of a plaque and \$2,500, will be presented at the American Library Association Annual Conference in Chicago in July 2009.

This award is open to both librarians and allied professionals with at least 5 years of professional experience who have demonstrated significant achievement in librarianship in psychology or the behavioral sciences. APA employees are not eligible.

Award Criteria

This award recognizes an outstanding contribution to psychology and behavioral sciences librarianship focusing on work completed within the most recent 5 years, including instruction, project development, publications, research, or service.

Examples of outstanding contributions include these:

- ✓ Development and implementation of new curricula or instructional programs or innovative teaching methods or materials
- ✓ Outstanding research contribution (published or unpublished)
- ✓ Demonstrated service in an organization that supports research
- ✓ Development of a collection, access tool, or innovative reference
- ✓ Publication(s) such as books, journal articles, websites, or multimedia products

Nominate a Librarian or Allied Professional

continued from page 5

To nominate a candidate or to self-nominate, please submit the following by March 6, 2009:

- Nomination statement (describe the contribution and its significance within and outside of your institution)
- Letters of support (no more than three; at least one letter from outside the nominee's library or organization by a direct beneficiary of the services provided by the nominee is strongly encouraged)
- Contact information for the nominee

We will contact the nominee, who will be responsible for providing the following supporting materials by April 6, 2009:

- Examples of work (photocopies, CDs, URL links, etc.)
- Resume or CV

Send application materials by mail to

Customer Relations
APA Library Award
American Psychological Association/PsycINFO
Third Floor
750 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4242

Or send via email

Anne Breitenbach at abreitenbach@apa.org
or Lisa Sick at lsick@apa.org
with a subject line of APA Librarianship Award

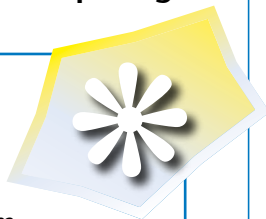
The recipient will be selected by a committee of peers and will receive the award at the EBSS Research Forum at the July 2009 meeting of the American Library Association.

Please direct questions to psycinfo@apa.org.

Reader Poll

Can you help? We'd like to get a better grasp of what Web 2.0 tools you're using, how you're using them, about how many customers are using each, and what feedback you're getting from them.

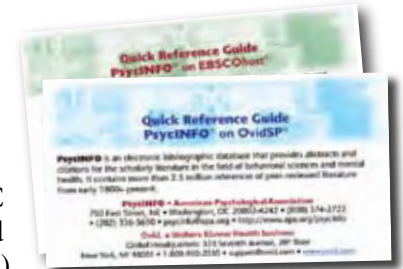
Please send your responses to psycinfo@apa.org with the subject line: PsycINFO News Reader Poll



Quick Reference Guides

APA offers system-specific Quick Reference search guides for PsycINFO. Guides are available for APA PsycNET, EBSCO, OCLC (First Search), Ovid, and ProQuest (CSA Illumina).

They are available in two formats: a downloadable 8 in. × 11 in. PDF format and a pocket-sized guide. Download the PDFs at <http://www.apa.org/databases/training/searchguides.html>. The printed pocket-size Quick Reference Guides can be mailed in bundles of 25. These are ideal for student and faculty training, and we provide them to librarians free of charge. To request the quick reference guides, send an email to psycinfo@apa.org and tell us the quantity, and platform you need.



PsycCRITIQUES
Blog has gone live!
<http://psyc critiquesblog.apa.org/>

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