



In Search Of: Finding Research on Disaster Mental Health

Situation

Tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes, tornados, floods, mudslides, forest fires, oil spills. All of these natural and manmade disasters can have devastating and long-lasting psychosocial effects on individuals and the communities involved. Individuals' symptoms might include emotional instability, flashbacks, sleep disturbances, interpersonal and social relationship problems, traumatic stress, and physical symptoms. First responders and others working at disaster sites often experience similar symptoms. Communities often face significant structural rebuilding as well as displacement of community members.

Build Your Search in PsycINFO® using Advanced Search on CSA Illumina

If your area of research is focused on the effects of the disaster, but even more specifically on the response to the disaster, you can start in CSA Illumina by running a broad Keyword search. Selecting Keywords from the drop-down menu searches in the title, abstract, and descriptor fields.

Use variants of the main concepts you are interested in searching, applying specific concepts or broader terminology to expand your results. Because this is in the exploratory stages of research, we will include the concept "disasters" as well as "disaster mental health," "disaster psychology," "disaster response," "disaster recovery," or "disaster preparedness." These are some of the concepts more commonly used in the psychological literature to refer to the response of mental health, medical, and allied health professionals to a natural or manmade disaster.

Because you are more interested in recent trends in this research, limit your search by entering 2000-2011 in the Date Range.

The screenshot shows the 'Advanced Search Form' on the CSA ILLUMINA website. The search criteria are as follows:

- Row 1: (disaster mental health or disaster psychology or disaster response) Keywords, KW+
- Row 2: (disasters or disaster recovery or disaster preparedness) Keywords, KW+
- Row 3: () Anywhere

Additional search options shown include:

- Now Selected: PsycINFO
- Change: Subject Area or Specific Databases
- Date Range: 2000 to 2011
- Limited to: Latest Update Journal Articles Only English Only
- More Search Options: (Hide)



Your results are still quite large, with 3,499 records returned. The tabs show you how many records are journals, books, chapters, and so on, including book reviews and dissertations if you click on the More tab:

The screenshot shows the CSA Illumina search results page. At the top, it says "Advanced Search Results" and "CSA ILLUMINA". Below that, there are navigation tabs: "Quick Search", "Advanced Search", "Search Tools", and "Browse". The search results section shows "3499 results found for: KW=((disaster mental health) or (disaster psychology ... in ? PsychINFO Alert Me)". Underneath, it says "Published Works 3499". A section titled "All Publication Types 3499" contains several tabs: "Journals 2502", "Peer-Reviewed Journals 2495", "Books 117", "Chapters/Essays 656", and a "More >" button. The "More >" button is highlighted with a red box. Below this, there are options to "Mark or Clear all on page", "Update Marked List", and "Save, Print, Email". A "Sort by:" dropdown menu is set to "Most Recent First" with a "Go" button next to it. The first result is titled "1. The psychological impact from Hurricane Katrina: Effects of displacement and trauma exposure on university students." and includes author names and a brief description.

To retrieve the most relevant results first, select the Sort by option, Relevance Rank. Sorting by Relevance presents the most relevant results first. The relevance is determined using the first eight terms in the descriptor field. The records containing the search term within the descriptor field will be listed first.

This screenshot is similar to the previous one, but the "Sort by:" dropdown menu is open. The options are "Relevance Rank", "Most Recent First", "Relevance Rank", and "Oldest First". The "Relevance Rank" option is selected, and a mouse cursor is pointing at it. The rest of the page content is the same as in the previous screenshot.

Now, scan the results for an article that seems most related to your topic:

Advanced Search Results

All Publication Types 3499 Journals 2502 Peer-Reviewed Journals 2502 Books 117 Chapters/Essays 856 [More »](#)

Mark or Clear all on page | Update Marked List | Save, Print, Email

Sort by: Relevance Rank

Record #

1. **An evidence-informed model of human resistance, resilience, and recovery: The Johns Hopkins' outcome-driven paradigm for disaster mental health services.**
 Kaminsky, Michael¹; McCabe, O. Lee¹; Langlieb, Alan M.¹; Everly, George S., Jr.¹
 Brief Treatment and Crisis Intervention. Vol 7(1), Feb 2007, pp. 1-11
 The resilience, resistance, and **recovery** formulation represents an evidence-informed, outcome-driven approach to critical incident and **disaster** management. In this paper, we shall (a) briefly describe each of the fundamental ...
[View Record](#) | [References](#) | [Cited by 6](#) | [Document Delivery](#)

2. **Social and community responses: Assessing relationships among environmental supports in child and caregiver adjustment following a hurricane.**
 Varela, R. Enrique¹; Hensley-Maloney, Lauren¹; Vernberg, Eric M.²
 Kilmer, Ryan P.; Gil-Rivas, Virginia; Tedeschi, Richard G.; Calhoun, Lawrence G. (2010). Helping families and communities recover from disaster: Lessons learned from hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. (pp. 193-213). Washington, DC, US: American Psychological Association. xiv, 340 pp.
 (From the chapter) Major hurricanes such as Katrina and Rita undoubtedly affect the lives of many children, adolescents, and their families. The impact of such storms on family members may be influenced by several factors, including the degree of ...
[View Record](#) | [References](#) | [Document Delivery](#)

Databases: PsycINFO
Descriptors: [Disasters*](#) | [Emergency Preparedness*](#) | [Health Care Delivery*](#) | [Mental Health Services*](#) | [Stress Intervention](#) | [Resilience \(Disorders\)](#)

Databases: PsycINFO
Descriptors: [Caregivers*](#) | [Community Services*](#) | [Emergency Preparedness*](#) | [Natural Disasters*](#) | [Social Services*](#) | [Adjustment](#) | [Mas...](#)

From within the record display of the result you are interested in, you can fine-tune your search strategy by using the Descriptors to narrow or broaden your search using the Boolean operators AND and OR. Let's check Emergency Preparedness and use Add to Current Search using AND to narrow:

Database: PsycINFO

Title: Social and community responses: Assessing relationships among environmental supports in child and caregiver adjustment following a hurricane.

Author: Varela, R. Enrique¹; Hensley-Maloney, Lauren¹; Vernberg, Eric M.²

Affiliation: (1)Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, US; (2)University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS, US

Source: Kilmer, Ryan P.; Gil-Rivas, Virginia; Tedeschi, Richard G.; Calhoun, Lawrence G. (2010). Helping families and communities recover from disaster: Lessons learned from hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. (pp. 193-213). Washington, DC, US: American Psychological Association. xiv, 340 pp.

Descriptors: Caregivers* Community Services* Emergency Preparedness* Natural Disasters* Social Services* Adjustment
 Family Members Social Support Stress

New Search Using Marked Terms: Use AND to narrow Use OR to broaden

Add to Current Search: Use AND to narrow Use OR to broaden

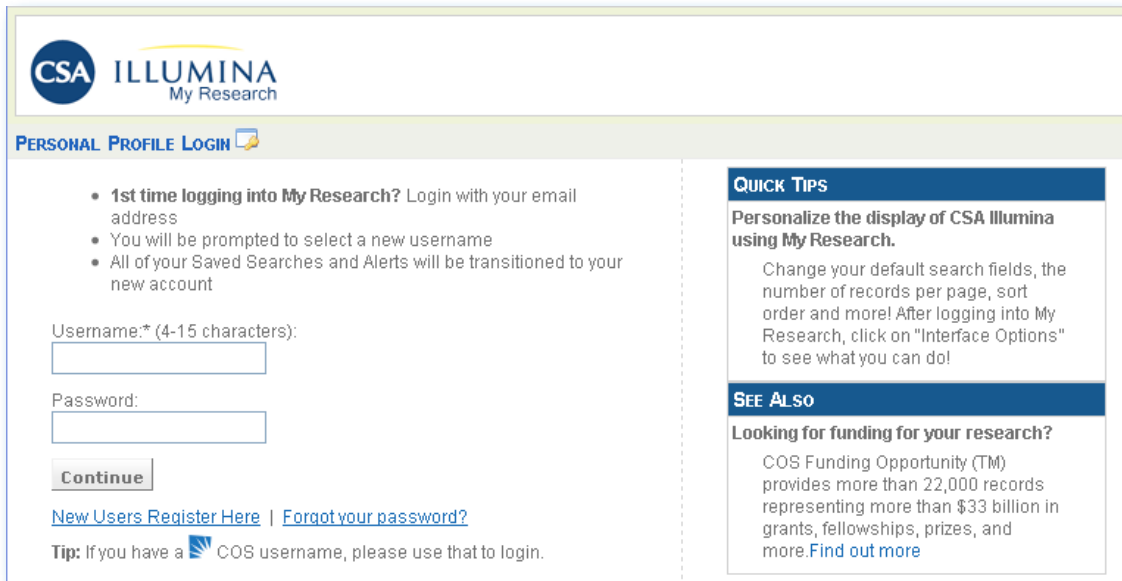
Abstract: (From the chapter) Major hurricanes such as Katrina and Rita undoubtedly affect the lives of many children, adolescents, and their families. The impact of such storms on family members may be influenced by several factors, including the degree of exposure, the time elapsed since the storm, personality traits, preexisting psychopathology, postdisaster life stressors, and the amount of environmental support that is available and used (Silverman & La Greca, 2002; Vernberg & Varela, 2001). The present chapter focuses on the impact of social and community responses on the environments of children and their caregivers at all levels, with special consideration of these responses in the context of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In addition, we offer some suggestions on how to improve responses to future hurricanes.
 (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2010 APA, all rights reserved)

Set up an Alert

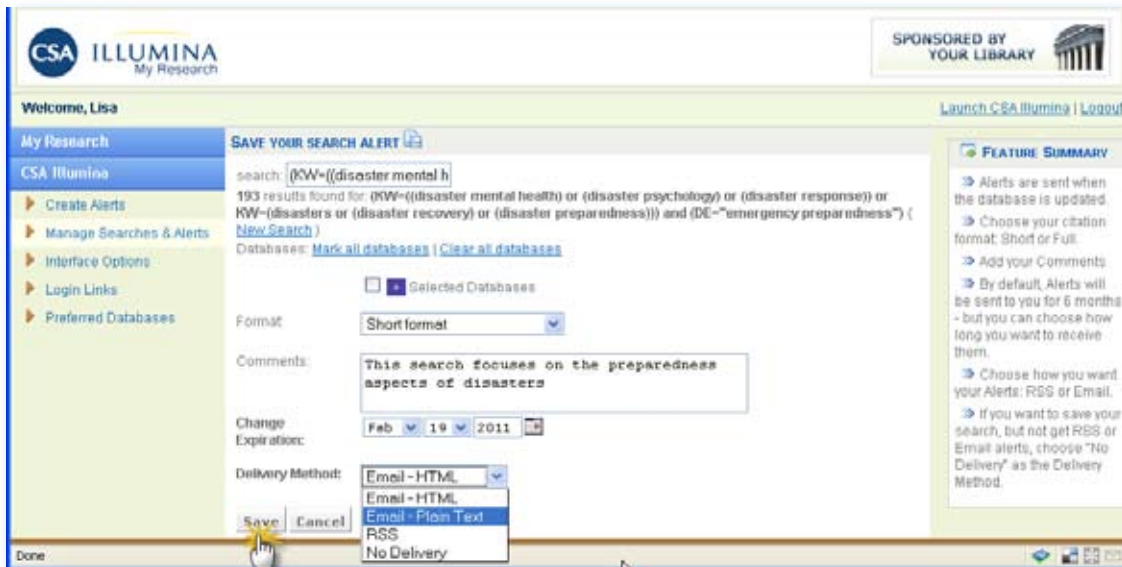
At any point in this search, you can set up an Alert. For example, if you are interested in finding out when research is published in the scholarly literature on an emerging topic such as the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, you can receive an Alert when material on natural disasters is added to the database.



If you already have a CSA Illumina My Research login you can enter it here, or new users can register by clicking on the link.



Review your search strategy, select a short or full format with or without references, add comments, set expiration date, and select the delivery method. Any time new results are released in the database matching the search strategy, you will receive an email or an RSS alert:



Welcome, Lisa Launch CSA Illumina | Logout

My Research

CSA Illumina

- ▶ Create Alerts
- ▶ Manage Searches & Alerts
- ▶ Interface Options
- ▶ Login Links
- ▶ Preferred Databases

MANAGE SEARCHES & ALERTS

Alert #1

Search Query: **RW-((disaster mental health) or (disaster psychology) or (disaster response)) or RW-(disasters or (disaster recovery) or (disaster preparedness)) and DE="emergency preparedness"** (Edit)

Created on: August 19, 2010

Databases: **+** [Copy Query](#) | [View Results](#) | [Delete](#)

Format: Short format [Delivery Method: Email - HTML](#)

Expiration Date: February 19, 2011 ([Renew](#))

Comments: This search focuses on the preparedness aspects of disasters

FEATURE SUMMARY

- ➔ An Alert that isn't being delivered via RSS or Email is a Saved Search.
- ➔ Edit searches or alerts to change databases, renew the expiration date or change your delivery method.
- ➔ To store your query, click Copy Query.
- ➔ View Results will open a new CSA Illumina window with your hits.

Create an Annotated Bibliography

On the CSA Illumina platform you have the option to create an annotated bibliography. Click on the link to Save, Print, Email from the results list. You will have the option to perform those functions as well as creating an annotated bibliography and exporting your references to RefWorks:

Save, Print, Email [Return to Results](#) [Help & Support](#)

Use 193 records from the current results list of All Publication Types

From record 1 to 193 of 193 Published Works (maximum 500 at a time)

Full format - no references

Comments:

New! Create a bibliography with QuikBib (Only records for Published Works will be processed.)

Choose a document format:

HTML Text

Choose a bibliographic style:

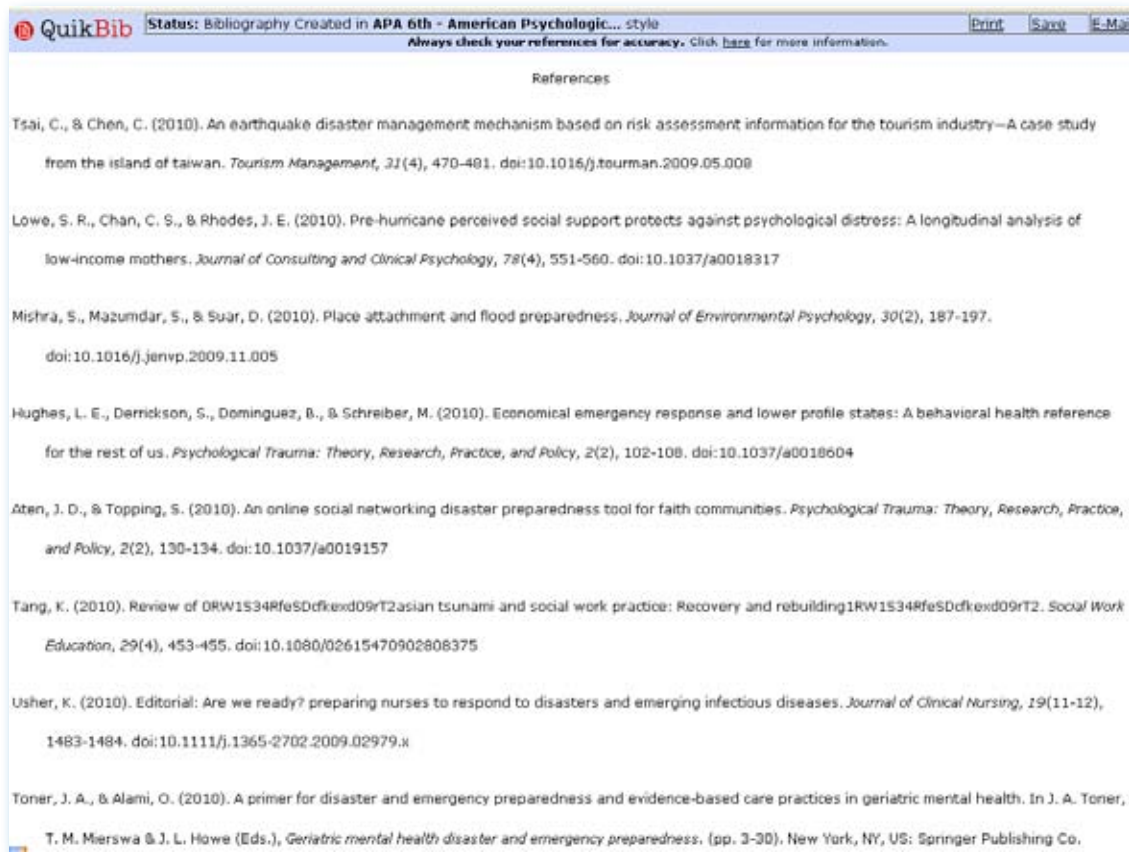
APA - American Psychological Association, 6th Edition

To: From: optional

File format: PC Macintosh Unix

(Only records for Published Works will be processed.)

Selected References Using Quik Bib



QuikBib Status: Bibliography Created in APA 6th - American Psychologic... style
 Always check your references for accuracy. Click [here](#) for more information. [Print] [Save] [E-Mail]

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Aten, J. D., & Topping, S. (2010). An online social networking disaster preparedness tool for faith communities. *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy, 2*(2), 130-134. doi:10.1037/a0019157

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Toner, J. A., & Alami, O. (2010). A primer for disaster and emergency preparedness and evidence-based care practices in geriatric mental health. In J. A. Toner, T. M. Mierswa & J. L. Howe (Eds.), *Geriatric mental health disaster and emergency preparedness*. (pp. 3-30). New York, NY, US: Springer Publishing Co.

Searches shown were conducted in September 2010