

The *Social Work Abstracts* database is an index to articles and documents covering all aspects of social work, human services and related fields. The database draws its citations from over 450 journals published from 1977 to the present. *Social Work Abstracts* is appropriate for research dealing with scholarly and professional perspectives in the field of social work.

### Searching in Social Work Abstracts

Access *Social Work Abstracts* by going to the **Find Articles** tab on the Library's web page and clicking on "Locate databases" and "By Title." Type your search terms into the search box. To search for multiple terms or phrases, click on

**Advanced Search**. This will allow you to connect search terms using **AND**, **OR**, or **NOT**. See the back page of this guide for details on using these connectors.



Searching: **Social Work Abstracts** | [Choose Databases >](#)

child abuse in    

AND  in

Basic Search | [Advanced Search](#) | [Visual Search](#) | [Search History/Alerts](#) | [Preferences >](#)

**Search Options**

Search modes  Boolean/Phrase  
 Find all my search terms  
 Find any of my search terms

Limit your results

Linked Full Text  **You can limit your search to a certain publication, publisher, or publication date. Limiting to "Linked Full Text" ensures your results will include only articles that are available electronically.**

Publication

Publisher

Apply related words

Publication Date from Month  Year:  to Month  Year:

Document Type  
 All  
 Article  
 Book  
 Chapter

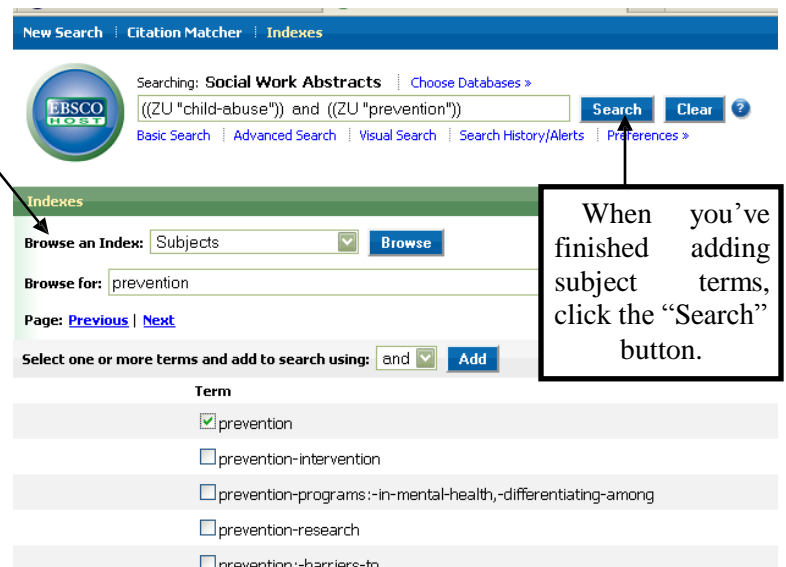
Author

### Index Search

Alternately, you can search for articles using indexing terms. Each article in *Social Work Abstracts* has a list of subject terms attached to it. These terms explicitly describe the content of an article and make it easy to find similar articles dealing with the same subject matter.

Click on **Indexes** at the top of the page. In the drop-down box for **Browse an Index**, select "Subjects." You can also browse by author, publication, etc. Type in your search term and click "Browse." Choose the term you want to search from the list provided. Click "Add" to add the term to your search.

You can search for articles with multiple subject terms. When you find another term that fits your query, click "Add" making sure to choose a connector from the drop-down box. AND will search for articles with both terms while OR will search for articles with one subject term or the other.



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((ZU "child-abuse")) and ((ZU "prevention"))   

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**Indexes**

Browse an Index:

Browse for:

Page: [Previous](#) | [Next](#)

Select one or more terms and add to search using:

Term

- prevention
- prevention-intervention
- prevention-programs--in-mental-health,-differentiating-among
- prevention-research
- prevention--barriers-to

**When you've finished adding subject terms, click the "Search" button.**

## Viewing Your Search Results

Click on the title of an article to view more information including citation information, an abstract, and assigned subject terms. *Social Work Abstracts* includes some full-text (look for the PDF button), but most often the articles are available in another database. Click on **Check Article Availability** to see if the full-text of an article is available. If it is, it should open up in another window. If not, check PITTCat to see if the article is available in print at a ULS library. **Ask-a-Librarian** if you need assistance locating the full text of an article.

**Did you know that EBSCO will help you create a citation for an article?** Click on the “Cite” button and choose your citation style from the list (includes MLA, APA, and more). You can also export a citation to a “bibliographic manager” such as *RefWorks* by clicking on the icon with the green arrow.

## More Searching Tips

You can use special operators to combine search terms and broaden or narrow your search.

**Truncation** is another way to broaden your search. Type a word root and immediately follow it with a \*. For example, child\* finds records containing child, child’s, children, childhood, childlike, etc.

Operator	Search Example	Finds Records Containing ...
AND	cloning AND ethics	both cloning and ethics
OR	metaphor OR simile	either metaphor or simile
NOT	chemistry NOT Organic	chemistry but not organic. Use carefully because NOT eliminates records containing both terms
NEAR (N)	welfare N5 reform	welfare and reform in the same sentence (within 5 words of each other) regardless of the order
WITHIN (W)	refugees W4 bosnia	refugees and Bosnia within 8 words of each other, in the order you entered them

**If you need assistance using Social Work Abstracts, or any other database, please don’t hesitate to ask a Reference Librarian in person or call the Reference Desk at x7295.**