

BOOK REVIEW

Resources for Nursing Research: An annotated bibliography, by Cynthia G.L. Clamp, with contributions from Marie P. Ballard and Stephen Cough. Library Association Publishing: London, 1991, 366pp: ISBN 1-85604-028-3.

This is the first edition of this resource book for nursing research methodology. The format consists of three major parts entitled "Sources of Literature" (three chapters), "Methods of Inquiry" (seven chapters) and, "Background to Research in Nursing" (15 chapters). A table of contents, forward by Lisabeth Hockey, introduction, section on how to use the book, extensive reference list, five appendices and a subject and author index are included.

Each chapter is divided into several sections - each presenting a single topic. The topic is briefly defined, followed by an annotated bibliography. There are 1,300 annotations throughout the book, and most of the literature is post 1980. Many sections also include a list of suggested textbook readings.

The number of topics covered is impressive, ranging from various mechanisms for researching the literature, through the various steps of the research process. The section on background to nursing research covers the historical development from an international perspective, as well as a variety of other topics.

I think this book will be of most value to educators in the nursing research area. The authors have attempted to appeal to an international, English-speaking audience. I found the cross-referencing system a bit cumbersome to follow initially, and part three somewhat disjointed. However, as an educator in nursing research, I found myself putting asterisks beside various articles as I read through the text. Overall, I would recommend this book to nursing research educators as a useful resource.

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