Find and Cite Three-to-Five Sources: Applying the Sociological Imagination to Critical Information Literacy

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## Sociological Information Literacy Framework (Draft)

**Framework for Information Literacy Concepts**
- **Authority Is Constructed and Contextual**: Evaluate based on information need and context, different types of authorities.
- **Information Creation as a Process**: Different formats reflect varying messages and delivery methods.
- **Information Has Value**: As commodity, education, influence, understanding: role of legal and socio-economic interests.
- **Research as Inquiry**: Iterative question asking, methods, analysis.
- **Scholarship as Conversation**: Sustained discourse, varied perspectives.
- **Searching as Strategic Exploration**: Iterative evaluation of range of sources, mental flexibility.

### Sociological Literacy Framework

- **Sociological Information Literacy** is an understanding of how information and scholarship are created, published, disseminated, and used by individuals and organizations that is informed by sociological thinking and scholarship.

### Next Steps
- **Peer review, revision, and putting it into practice**!
- **Making meaningful connections between sociological and information literacy** will provide a foundation to enrich instructor-librarian collaboration in the classroom and strengthen overall student learning.

### Sociological Literacy Framework Concepts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Authority</strong></td>
<td>Social basis of construction of knowledge, truth political, scientific knowledge vs. other ways of knowing.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contextual</strong></td>
<td>&quot;medium is the message&quot;</td>
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<td><strong>Information Creation</strong></td>
<td>Ownership of information systems impacts the processes of information creation and what information is made available.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Information Has Value</strong></td>
<td>Ownership of information systems is concentrated; even where information is produced by individuals, it may be owned by private corporations (e.g., on social media platforms, transfer of copyright agreements).</td>
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<td><strong>Research as Inquiry</strong></td>
<td>Expert knowledge is shaped by established scientific systems and processes.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scholarship as Conversation</strong></td>
<td>Scholarly conversations are shaped by institutional structures: higher education, research firms, publishers, libraries, archives, and the WWW.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Searching as Strategic Exploration</strong></td>
<td>Search engines as gatekeepers to information. Algorithms reflect the interests of their creators.</td>
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### Critical Information Literacy

- **Scholarly conversations** are shaped by institutional structures: higher education, research firms, publishers, libraries, archives, and the WWW.
- **Participation in scholarly discourse** relies on membership in communities of practice.
- **Citizen practices** are influenced by legal and social norms and contexts. Knowledge of social inequalities and the ways they are produced can empower individuals to act as informed citizens with higher-order thinking skills.

### Sociological Eye

- **Sociology as a distinctive discipline**
  - Social basis of construction of knowledge
  - Truth is political
  - Scientific knowledge vs. other ways of knowing

- **Sociological Information Literacy** is an understanding of how information and scholarship are created, published, disseminated, and used by individuals and organizations that is informed by sociological thinking and scholarship.

### Sociological Change and Social Reproduction

- **How social phenomena replicate and change**
  - Scientific authorities: acceptance of certain "truths" about the social and natural world; Through young scholars, these "truths" persist
  - Social movements: influenced by scholarship, but the term refers to those that impact the social world.
  - Every day, scientists encounter phenomena that cannot be explained by existing theories: often, these anomalies are ignored or avoided through a focus on certain methodologies over others.

### Societal Information Literacy

- **Engage with us! Call for Peer Reviewers**

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### Sociological Information Literacy Framework

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