

Annotated References

Assignment: Annotate 8-10 or more resources you are locating to answer your hypothesis / or research guiding question. No more than 2 of these resources may be from the free web. The remainder should be from scholarly databases, particularly the ProQuest database. These will be the basis for the narrative literature review you complete as one of the first steps in your research project.

What is an annotated reference?

An annotated reference is a list of recommended resources on a given research question. For each resource listed, first the complete bibliographic information (according to APA citation rules) is given. Next, there is an annotation, which is a description of what is included in the resource and why it has been selected to be on the list.

Things to remember about an annotation:

- It is not simply a summary of what the source is about.
- It is a critical description by you as to why this particular source is a good one for your research question. (If you decide it is not a good source, don't use it!)
- You cannot write an annotation without reviewing the source.

Sample Annotated References citation:

Babington, Charles. "Patriot Act Compromise Clears Way for Senate Vote: [FINAL Edition]." *The Washington Post* 10 Feb. 2006: A.01. *Washington Post, ProQuest*. Web. 15 Nov. 2009.

Babington is a Washington Post Staff writer and the author of this article. This recent article is on the efforts to extend the Patriot Act and also to revise some of the sections. Still there are aspects of the act that people feel uneasy about. For example, the new "compromise" does not require government agents to show a connection between a terrorist or a spy before getting a section 215 "subpoena." I can use this article to show that the government has been doing something to reform the act to the public's wants. There are also a number of statements by politicians who have a position on the controversy. These statements are potentially strong quotations for my paper.

[Note: The citation is double-spaced with a hanging indent in accordance with APA rules, while the annotation is single-spaced with a first line indent.]