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Everyday Life Information Literacy: A Review of Literature



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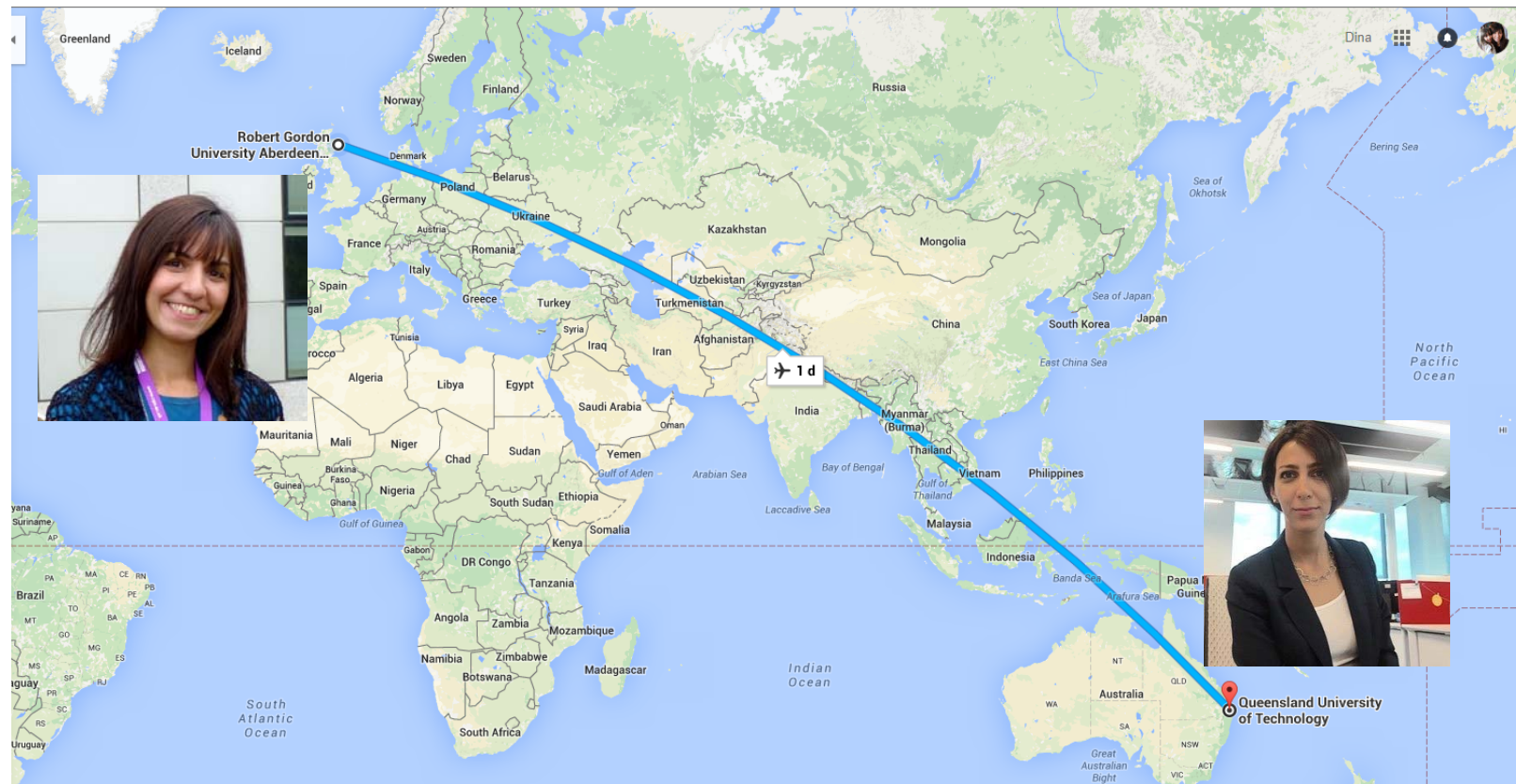
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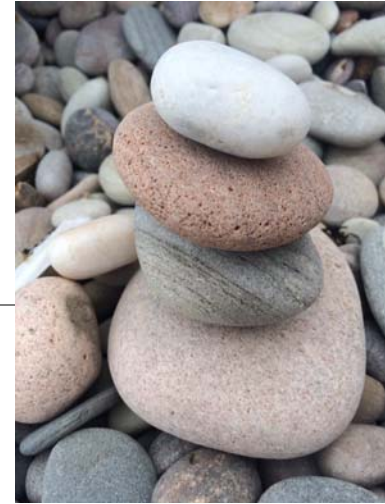
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Making connections...



Setting the scene...



What is Everyday Life community Information literacy (ELIL)?

- searching for, **critically evaluating** and **using** information effectively to solve everyday problems.
- being able to address a range of information needs that relate to **everyday practices**
- making informed decisions that are of significant value to individuals and communities (e.g. financial, health or law-related).
- an important condition for **civic participation and engagement, informed citizenship, health, well-being** and generally, people's quality of life (Leung, 2009).

Value of ELIL



- Alexandria Proclamation on Information Literacy and **Lifelong Learning**:

“provides the key to **effective access, use and creation of content** to support economic development, education, health and human services, and all other aspects of contemporary societies...extends beyond current technologies to encompass **learning, critical thinking and interpretative skills across professional boundaries** and **empowers individuals and communities**” (Garner 2005 p.3).

- IL is an **“overarching literacy of life in the 21st century”** (Bruce 2002).

Rationale



- ➔ **IL research focuses on education and workplace contexts**
 - more than 60% of the IL literature has been within the context of Higher Education libraries (Whitworth, 2014).

- ➔ a study of emerging IL trends during 1999-2009 (Aharoni, 2010) shows:
 - IL is associated with **education**
 - **only began** “to shift into **workplaces** and the business world”.
 - **health and medicine**, appeared to **a lesser extent**, stressing “people’s need for information literacy in this specific context”
 - research within the **context of society** was found to be **limited** and its impact is “probably minor” (p. 271).

- ➔ **most research** investigated professional groups: scientists, engineers, scholars, and health professionals rather than “ordinary people” (Case 2002).

Rationale



Age

Older adults, young people/men, early years/preschool, nursery, aging women

Roles

Parents, retired people, citizens

Social situations

Pregnant women, immigrants, unemployed, job seekers, carers, health situations

ELIS

- Everyday information seeking behaviour conceptual framework (Savolainen 1995) – **lacks emphasis on the critical position and value of IL.**

ELIL

- existing ELIL research addresses a variety of contexts and foci – **lacks a holistic view to this area and additional research is necessary**
- “knowing the information landscape” (Lloyd, 2006) within ELIL not sufficient attention / **still emerging area of research / requires further exploration and understanding.**

Aims and Objectives

Aims –

To present a critical review of relevant literature on ELIL, seeking to offer a snapshot of existing research within this area

To develop a research agenda for further exploration of the growing everyday life IL domain.

Objectives –

- To explore **existing empirical research** that addresses aspects of **ELIL**, identifying current gaps in the literature.
- To highlight the **key theoretical positions** and map **methodological trends** in this area.
- To make further **research and policy recommendations** on the basis of these findings.

Methodology

SCOPING REVIEW

to map rapidly the key concepts underpinning a research area and the main sources and types of evidence available, and can be undertaken as **stand alone projects** in their own right, especially where an area is complex or has not been reviewed comprehensively before” (Mays et al (2001 p.194).

identifying the research questions and the domain that needs to be explored

finding the relevant studies

- electronic databases, reference lists, websites of organizations, conference proceedings

selecting those that are relevant to the question(s)

charting the data

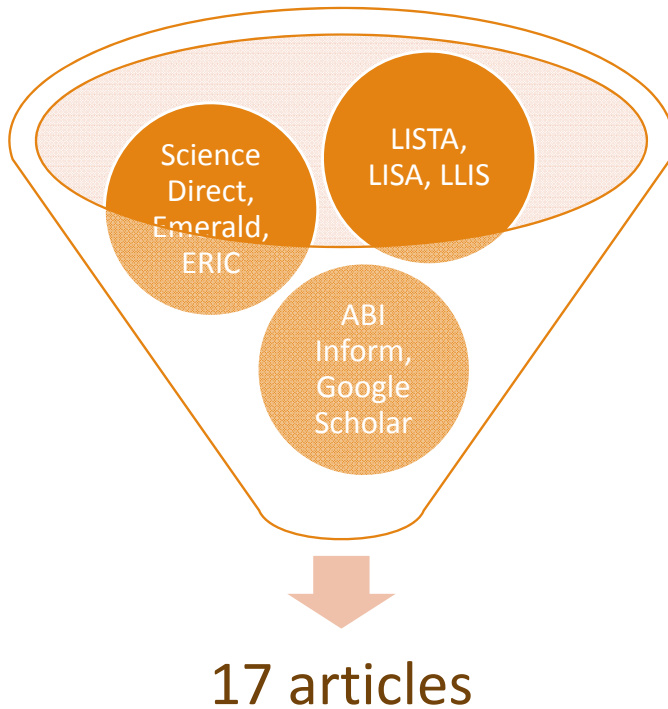
- i.e. the information on and from the relevant studies

collating, summarizing and reporting the results

consulting stakeholders to get more references and provide insights on what the literature fails to highlight (optional).

Arksey and O'Malley (2005)

Process followed



Excluded: Theses, chapters, theoretical papers



Included: journal articles, conference publications



Published: 2000-2016



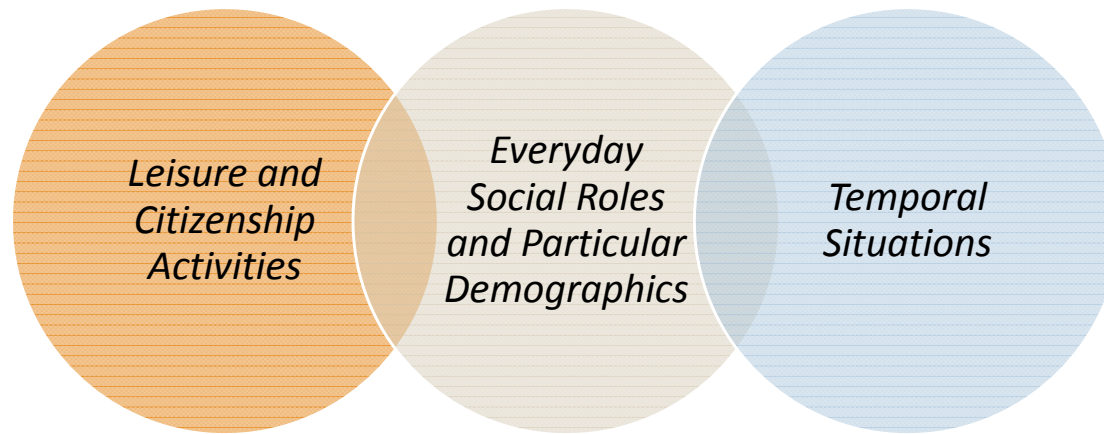
Search terms: 'information literacy' + 'everyday life', general and within the abstract, title and keyword fields

Database	Search string	Hits/accepted	
<i>SCIENCE DIRECT</i>	Title-Abstract-KeyWord ("information literacy") AND Title-Abstract-KeyWord ("everyday life").	Hits: 4 Accepted: 2	
Citation Information	Context	Method	Sample
Yates, 2015	Temporal situations	Semi-structured interviews	Australian citizens (47 to 64 years)
Sin, 2015	Leisure & Citizenship	Questionnaire survey	University international students
Database	Search string	Hits/accepted	
<i>LISTA</i> Via EBSCOhost	"information literacy" AND "everyday life" (all search fields) Limiters - Publication Date: 2000-2016 Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	Hits: 22 Duplicates: 2 Accepted: 10	
Citation Information	Context	Method	Sample
Eriksson-Backa, et al., 2012	Everyday social roles/demographics	Questionnaire survey	Finn citizens (65–79 years)
Walker., 2009.	Everyday social roles/demographics	Semi-structured interviews	U.K. Parents
Smith & Hepworth, 2012	Everyday social roles/demographics	Semi-structured interviews	Young people (11-18 years)
Hirvonen et al., 2015.	Everyday social roles/demographics	Questionnaire Survey	Young men (most 17-18 years)
Meyers et al. 2009	Everyday social roles/demographics	Interviews, focus groups	34 Preteens (9-13 years)
Yates et al. 2012	Everyday social roles/demographics	Interviews	20 participants between (57-81 years)
Sundin, 2011	Leisure & Citizenship	Interviews, online observations, web documents and discussions, e-mail questions	11 Wikipedia editors
Skov, 2013	Leisure & Citizenship	Web questionnaire, interviews	24 online museum visitors
Papen, 2013	Temporal situations	Interviews, analysis of pregnancy books and websites practices	26 Pregnant women
O'Connor, 2013	Leisure & Citizenship	Survey & Semi-structured interviews	44 US retired or near-retirement investors
Head et al 2009.	Leisure & Citizenship	Questionnaire survey	2318 US College students
Database	Search string	Hits/accepted	
<i>LIBRARY LITERATURE & INFORMATION SCIENCE</i> Via EBSCOhost	"information literacy" AND "everyday life" (all search fields) Limiters - Publication Date: 2000-2016 Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	Hits: 10 Duplicates: 6 Accepted: 0	
<i>ERIC</i> Via EBSCOhost	"information literacy" AND "everyday life" (all search fields) Limiters - Publication Date: 2000-2016 Search modes - Boolean/Phrase	Hits: 7 Duplicates: 2 Accepted: 1	

RESEARCH FINDINGS

ELIL information practices and experiences situated within a **diverse set of contexts/directions**:

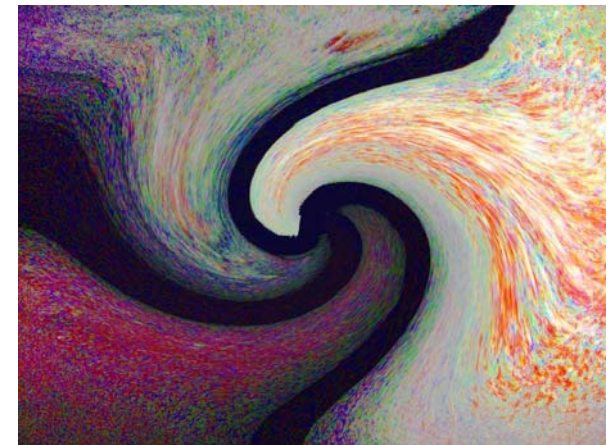
- ➔ **what is perceived as knowledge?** (with reference to sense-making within these specific contexts)
- ➔ **how is knowledge put to use?** (with a positive outcome for everyday situated practices)



ELIL for Leisure and Citizenship Activities

Savolainen's ELIS: understanding ISB for leisure pursuits

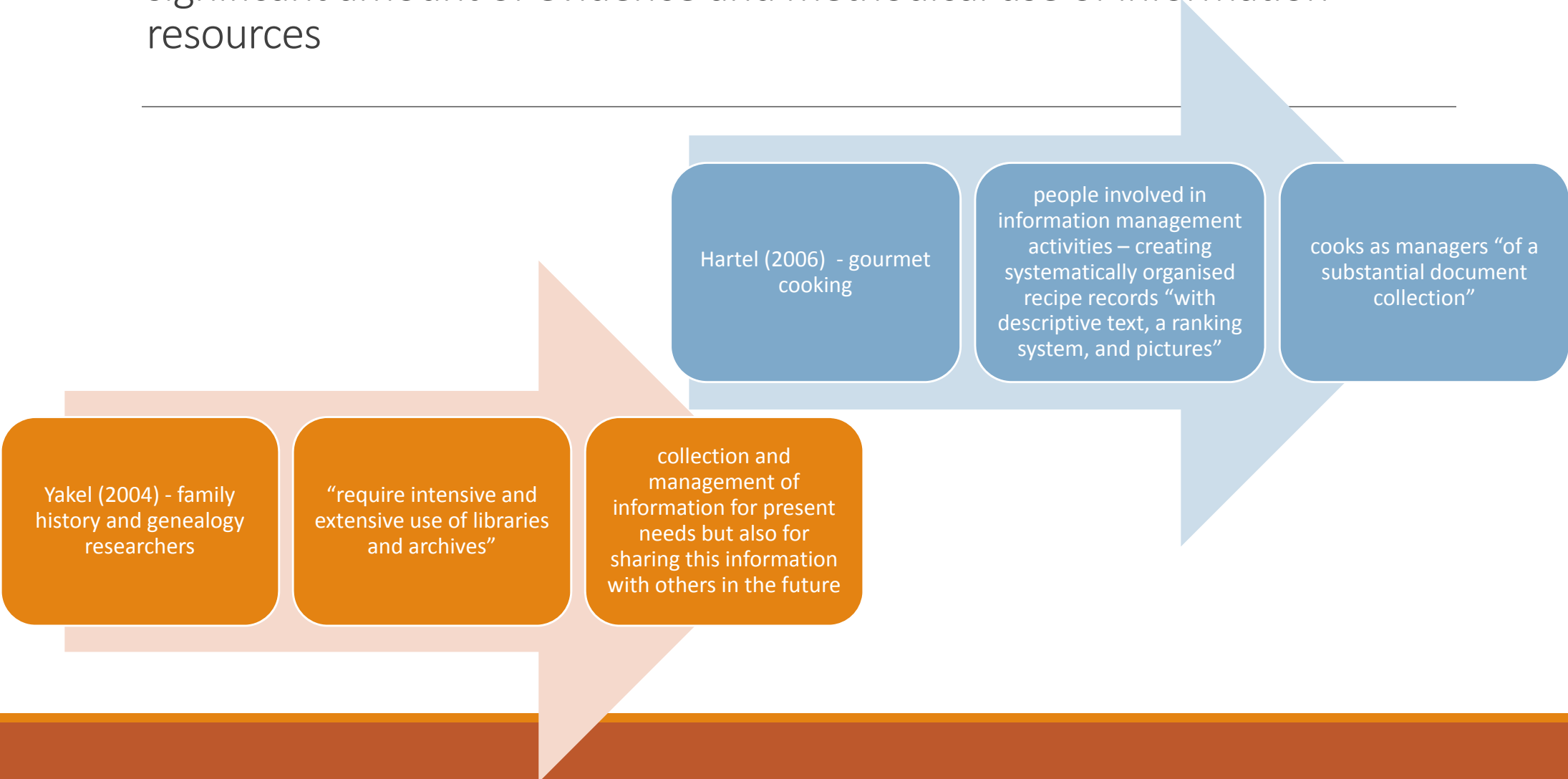
- hobbyists, such as online museum visitors (Skov, 2013),
- genealogists and family historians (Fulton and Vondracek 2009; Yakel, 2004),
- people who read for pleasure (Ross 1999),
- gourmet cooks (Hartel 2003; 2006; 2010),
- knitters (Prigoda and McKenzie 2007),
- food bloggers (Cox and Blake 2011)
- different types of collectors (Case 2009, Case 2010, Lee and Trace 2009).



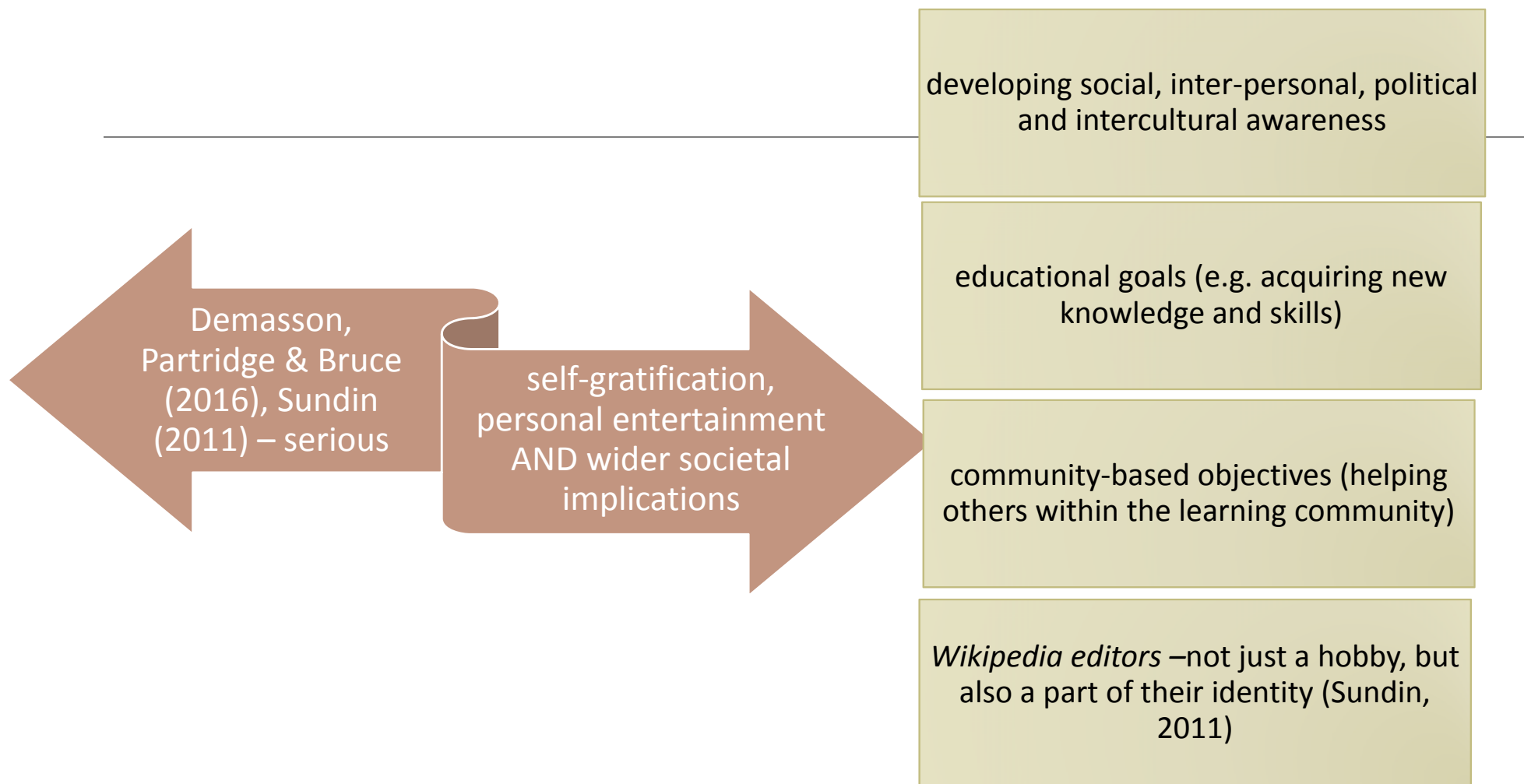
IL conclusions:

- **Conclusion 1:** hobby-related ISB in different contexts requires a significant amount of evidence and methodical use of information resources.
- **Conclusion 2:** blending the everyday leisure environment with the context of work and education is evident

Conclusion 1: hobby-related ISB in different contexts requires a significant amount of evidence and methodical use of information resources



Conclusion 2: ELIL has personal and wider societal implications



Conclusion 3: blending the everyday leisure environment with the context of work and education

blurring boundaries between 'formal' and 'informal' IL practices suggests a convergent IL space

The diagram features a large brown arrow pointing left from the center, and a smaller brown arrow pointing right from the center. A ribbon-like shape connects the two arrows, containing a list of references. To the right of the arrows are four stacked rectangular boxes containing text. The top and bottom boxes are light brown, while the middle two are light green. The entire diagram is set against a white background with a horizontal line above it and a solid orange bar at the bottom.

Kostagiolas et al. 2015;
Laplante & Downie 2011;
Tepper & Hargittai 2009;
Sundin 2011 ; Rieh 2004; Head
et al. 2009; Sin 2015

both education and pleasure based pursuits around music, e.g. sharing information with others, employing easy to use search systems, favouring interpersonal information sources (music IL Kostagiolas et al., 2015)

Wikipedia editors - emphasis on easy access and source hierarchy based on trustworthy information by scholarly criteria within the Wikipedia editors' IL landscape (Sundin 2011)

People lacking IL support in the home information environment - active seekers, keenly aware of their search skills and constantly evaluating their own skill levels (Rieh 2004)

whether for course related or everyday life research students followed stable, expected & habitual (Head et al. 2019) / Sin (2015) identified a need for ELIL training for international students in relation to legal and financial information

ELIL for Everyday Social Roles and Particular Demographics

- demographic characteristics and social roles generate common ELIL needs

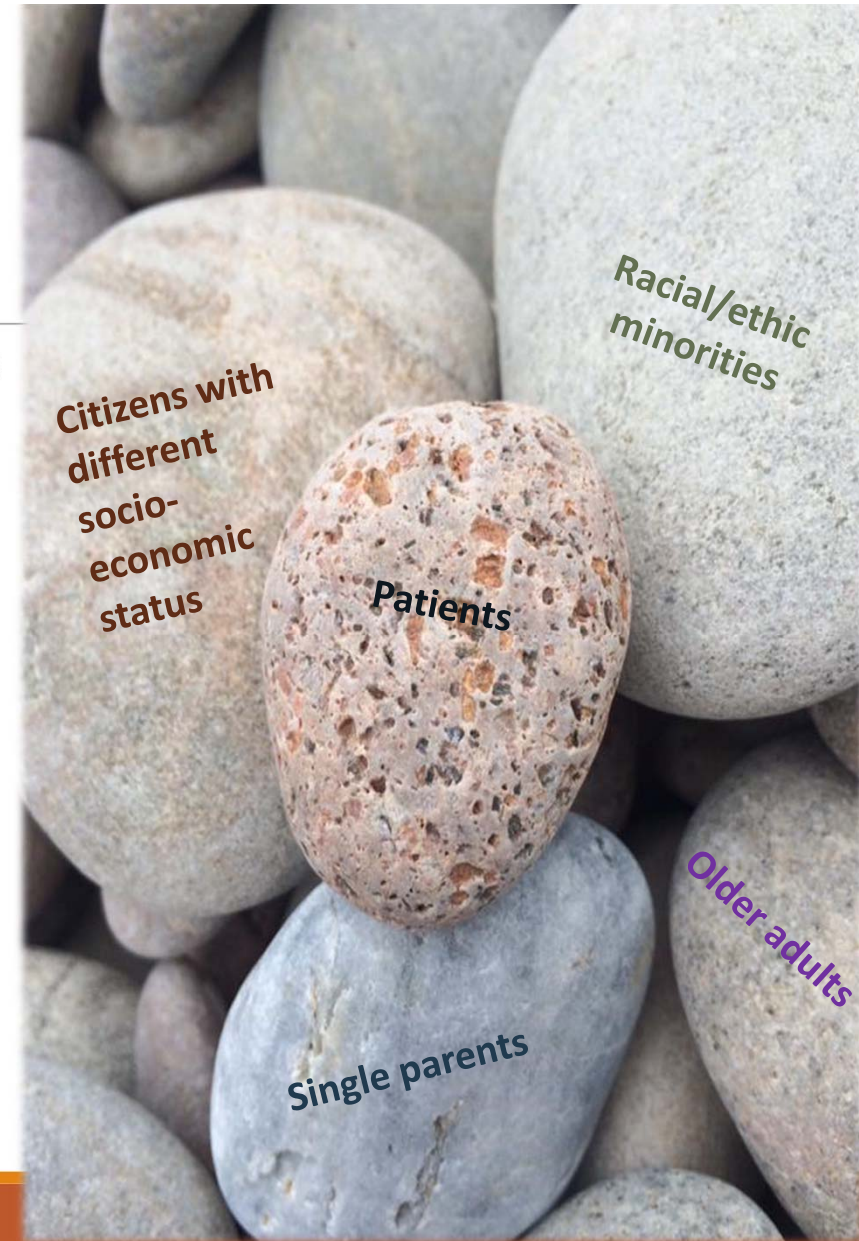


social inclusion and informed decision-making

Geography, community (e.g. city, country, urban, rural) – information provision locally, voluntarily and informally rather than formally as in urban areas (Talbot 1998)

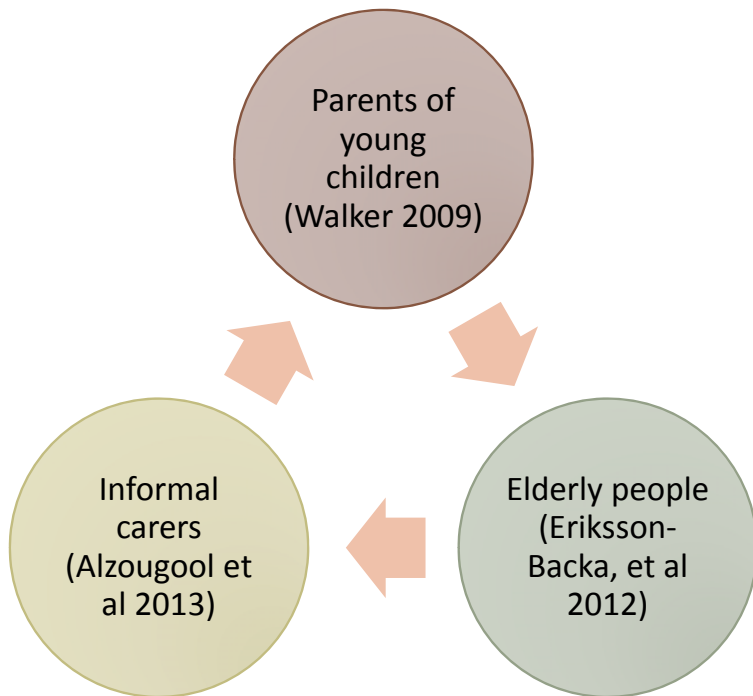
Group level, socio-cultural characteristics: different cultures, ages, languages and physical needs.

- impact on the development of ELIL (e.g. lower socio-economic groups make less use of information that would help them participate in democratic activities (i.e. digital divide)



ELIL for to Everyday Social Roles and Particular Demographics

Conclusion: Demographic differences and roles determine how ELIL needs are experienced



- single most important source: **trusted friends or family**, sense of community
- internet a major source of information
- “under greater socio-political scrutiny”. Yet evaluation based on personal values, beliefs and trust : “gut feeling”. **Evaluation a key concern**
- Experience, tacit knowledge and affective aspects (e.g. feeling pressure, anxiety about the problem they encounter) areas for further investigation

- **challenging role:** self-dependent but experiencing information, information overload, information avoidance or lack of health literacy
- internet plays a key part in the fulfilment of this role
- points for ELIL interventions: **not fully aware of their information needs**, more support from medical practitioners and other knowledgeable bodies.

- lower levels of education or poor health **more vulnerable**
- motivation important factor: not interested in health information or inactive means less confident
- information had to be presented in a way that is **understandable/ easily accessed**
- **patient related information already aimed at people with a fairly high level of education**, confident in their IL ability (particularly eHealth literacy)
- citizenship, recreational and financial information: information accuracy around investment information a significant issue for older adults within the digital era (O’Connor 2012)

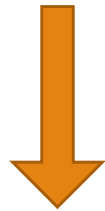
ELIL for Temporal Situations

Conclusion: IL empowers individuals, aids problem-solving, bridging the gap between marginalised experiences and 'ordinary' citizenship

Dealing with information in new and/or vital situations

- Expected or unexpected reasons
- sudden and unexpected exposure to new and overwhelming information
- within, sometimes, a relatively limited amount of time
- and under new circumstances for which little may be known

- stronger need for a different set of resources and different engagement ways with information
- additional support networks and interpersonal communication with alike individuals.



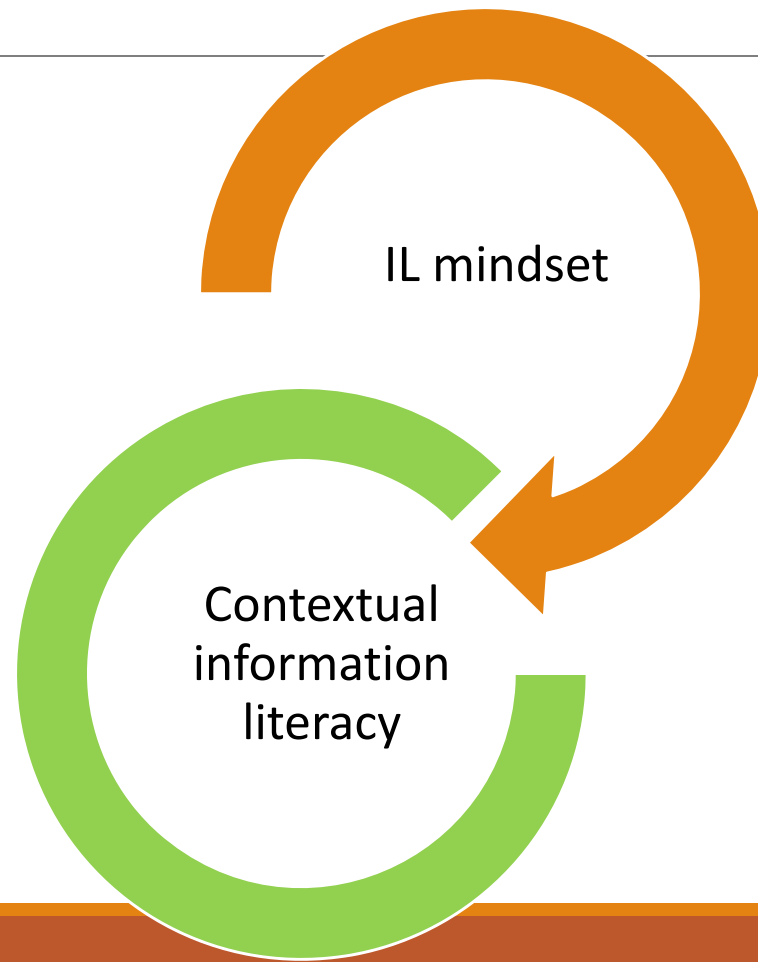
→ Significant decisions to be made

*Natural
disaster*

migration

pregnancy

Two levels of information literacy



Conclusion & recommendations

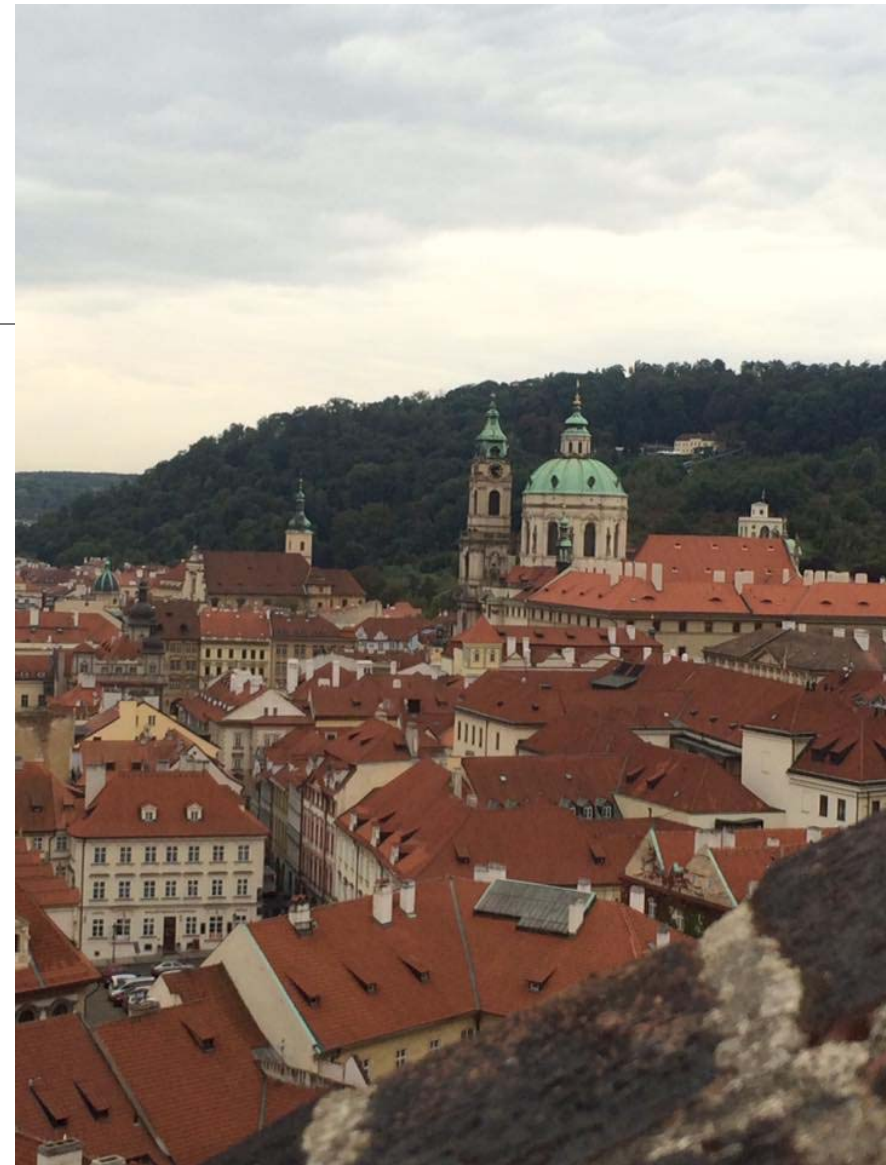
- ELIL different from IL in education and workplace → in less structured contexts
- sense of community and interpersonal information sources → play a key role
- work, education and everyday life information literacy experiences converge
- IL at 2 levels: 1) contextual information literacy ; 2) IL mindset

- Is Information literacy only supported by academic and librarians? Whose responsibility is it?
- ELIL understanding: Who will benefit? Who to talk to?



Thank you

*Děkuji
mnohokrát*



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