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EVALUATION RESEARCH IN SOCIAL POLICY



Introduction

In these days when large organizations and huge expenditures of money are required for the attempted solution of many social problems, it is to be expected that public policy makers would rather have forewarning of anticipated problem conditions and prepare for them through cogent, welldesigned social policies. These policies, which bear on the comfort and improved well-being of the people insofar as they are affected by any unit of government, can range from a plan for mass rapid transit, to school mergers, to encouraging the development of a day care center. This bibliography cites material concerned with only one facet of the topic: the assessments that have been made of social policies through

This bibliography cites material concerned with only one facet of the topic: the assessments that have been made of social policies through evaluation research techniques. Evaluation research pursues an objective and systematic assessment of the effectiveness of a program or policy. By using comparative studies, computer simulations, projections, quasi-control groups and other techniques, an evaluator can choose the most appropriate method or combination of methods to arrive at a scientific and comprehensive assessment of a given policy.

This two-part bibliography presents citations to journal and monographic literature on the broad methodologies of evaluation research and its theories and techniques in part one; and in part two, their specific application to social policy formulations. The majority of the citations are annotated and have been chosen from the computerized bibliographic data base created and maintained by the Library Services Division of the Congressional Research Service.

The material cited is arranged alphabetically by main entry within each of the two sections. Citations to items in the classified collection of the

Evaluation Research

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Library of Congress are provided with call numbers, items designated Law are located in the Law Library and those with Newsp are found in the Newspaper and Current Periodical Room of the Library of Congress. All journal articles are provided with the call number for the bound volumes of the journal regardless of whether the issues cited have been bound at this time.

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