Archive of the November 13 2018 #critlib chat on "critcat subject heading appraisal," moderated by @MLeonStewart @OpOnions @RobinDesmeules @violetbfox. For more info about critlib, including past and future chats, visit http://critlib.org.

Violet Fox 🐱 @violetbfox

Looking forward to tomorrow's #critlib chat!!
@MLeonStewart @RobinDesmeules @OpOnions & I will be having a conversation about the subject headings discussed in Hoffman's chapter on the classification of cookbooks. critlib.org/critcat-subjec... #critcat #LCSH

8:18 PM - Nov 12, 2018

No questions posted in advance: we'll have an informal discussion of the issues involved in proposing new #LCSH & whether "Foodways" and/or "Soul food cooking" are good LCSH candidates. Please read the chapter at critlib.org/critcat-subjec... & come with questions! #critlib #critcat

8:21 PM - Nov 12, 2018
M. Leon Stolas  🐱🐱🐱    @MLeonStewart

Tonight's the night! Join us (@OpOnions @RobinDesmeules @violetbfox and myself) at 9pm EST to talk LC subject headings, the proposal process, Foodways, &c.! critlib.org/critcat-subjec...

Violet Fox 🐱 @violetbfox · Nov 13, 2018
Tonight: #critcat is taking over the #critlib chat! No predetermined questions: we'll be discussing potential #LCSH additions about the #classification of cookbooks. Please read the chapter & join the conversation at 6pm Pacific/9pm Eastern. critlib.org/critcat-subjec...

Violet Fox 🐱 @violetbfox

Have you ever said library #metadata & #cataloging is important? Well, here's your low-barrier chance to learn more about what classification decisions look like in real life & contribute towards changing #LCSH for the better. #critlib #critcat

Violet Fox 🐱 @violetbfox

Hello everyone and welcome to tonight's #critlib chat! I couldn't come up with a clever title so I'm calling this one the "#critcat subject heading appraisal". #critcat is short for critical #cataloging, closely related to the storied history of radical cataloging.
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My fellow moderators for tonight's #critlib chat are @MLeonStewart @OpOnions & @RobinDesmeules. You should follow them all, they're great! We've got varying level of knowledge in classification & cataloging among us, as I'm sure you as participants will as well.

This will be a little different than the usual #critlib chat since there are no predetermined questions. Instead we hope you'll join us in this conversation about classification, subject headings (#LCSH), & what considerations go into maintaining a gigantic controlled vocabulary.
If you'd like to tweet anonymously, you can do so by using the form at critlib.org/anon. Tweets will appear on the @critlib_anon account. #critlib

Please introduce yourselves! #critlib

#critlib I'm making a comeback! Welcome @AlexGuillen to the community

Hey Andrew, and hello #critlib community! Excited to be here and talk <problematic> subject headings! 📚
Hello #critlib chat! I'm Alissa, an Australian cataloguer who is also at a ref desk right now, so I may lurk, but I'm keen to learn lots from this chat :)

M. Leon Stolas @MLeonStewart

hey hey #critlib and #critcat !! excited to get the ball rolling on this Problematique Subject Heading Discourse™!

Alex Guillen @_AlexGuillen

To introduce myself: I'm Alex, I'm a first year MSLIS/MA dual-degree student at LIU's Palmer School / NYU! #critlib

Oubliette Avram @OpOnions

hey #CritCat #CritLib folks, I'm Netanel a cataloger in Virginia

Robin Desmeules @RobinDesmeules

Hi everyone! I'm Robin and I'm a cataloguer in Montreal #critlib #critcat
Hello #critlib! I'm a cataloging and metadata librarian in Kentucky.

Violet Fox replied:

Find tonight's reading, Gretchen L. Hoffman's "What's the Difference between Soul Food and Southern Cooking? The Classification of Cookbooks in American Libraries" at critlib.org/critcat-subject. #critlib

Zoe replied:

Hi #critlib! I'm Zoe, South and Southeast Asia librarian. I'll probably be mainly lurking, but I'm excited to follow the conversation!

Alex Guillen replied:

Alex here! First semester in Library School at LIU / NYU! #critlib
Hi all in #critlib I am a GIS librarian at @nyudataservices

Hi #critlib. I'm an academic library cataloger in central Minnesota.

howdy #critlib and #critcat folks! I'm Michael. I'm a (paraprofessional) cataloger for a mid-size public library system in PA! (I'm also currently a second-year MLS student!)

Hi all, I'm Margaret, a cataloger in Hawaii. #critcat #critlib

Hi #critlib. I'm an academic library cataloger in San Diego.
Hi #critlib  I'm Teg. I work in a small regional uni in Australia. I'm writing a Macro-historical analysis of librarianship for my Doctorate. It is all very depressing.

I'm Violet, feeling like an absolute fuckup since I broke my website cataloginglab.org just an hour ago and I don't remember where I backed it up and nothing I do is enough and nothing matters. So, uh, rough night so far, but let's #critlib.

Hi #critlib : I'm an academic library cataloger from southern Minnesota

Hi #critlib / #critcat! I'm Elis and I'm a Rare Books / Special Collections librarian in Montreal :)
Thanks to everyone for joining us! I'm hoping folks had a chance to view the chapter since it has a great overview of how subject headings work (or, at least, are supposed to work). #critlib

See Violet Fox's other Tweets

Hi #critlib #critcat, I'm Mel, a cataloging associate in an academic library and final semester MSIS student.

See @variouspagings's other Tweets

To start off very broadly, what did you think of the chapter? Did you have any questions about what the author is arguing? #critlib

See Violet Fox's other Tweets

Yes! As a newbie to the world of #critcat and #critlib I really appreciated the general introduction

See Alex Guillen's other Tweets
Tina Gross
@aboutness

Really good! It will be a useful thing to point people to for a basic explanation. #critlib

Violet Fox
@violetbfox

One thing we should say that has changed since the chapter was published in 2015 is that there is now a LCC class number for African American cooking: TX715.2.A47. So those are no longer lumped together with all the other cookbooks. #critlib

Tina Gross
@aboutness

I have a question about something in the chapter, but it's pretty technical and specific. Should I wait until later in the chat? #critlib

Violet Fox
@violetbfox

Bring it on! Folks can follow along and ask other questions in the meantime. #critlib
Woohoo! That's a victory! Speaking of victory...one area where I wish the author went deeper was explaining the "how" of some of the LCSH/LCC victories and progress that have been made. For ex on p65 the God (Christianity) win. #critlib

and that's a great thing Violet highlights that the new class number is there changes *are* made and *can* be made i wish that every chapter and book and blog post about an issue with LCSH or LCC could be updated with a post-script that the heading was changed #CritLib #CritCat

another thing that struck me with the chapter was how detailed the author was able to be about why the classification was needed -- there really isn't room to *do* that in a classification proposal so the Policy Office may not always see the need

#CritLib #CritCat
Alissa M.  
@lissertations

I won’t pretend to know anything about the history of American cooking, but the author’s criticisms of LCC & LCSH as inherently unable to concisely encompass interdisciplinary works seemed salient to me  #critlib

2:15 AM - Nov 14, 2018

Tina Gross  
@aboutness

Ok! On p. 71: “Soul food cooking” is related to southern cooking and could be classified at TX715.2.S68, but because “Soul food cooking” is just a cross-reference to “African American cooking,” soul food cookbooks cannot be classified at that number.

Is that true?  #critlib

2:15 AM - Nov 14, 2018

zemkat  
@zemkat

I really liked the chapter -- lots of great examples, and particularly ones where things can go wrong if you work too quickly (Chickens--Social aspects).  #critlib

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#CritLib #CritCat

but it's not like we can just write: "see attached essay" in all our proposals for LCSH and LCC

#CritLib #CritCat
Great question! Because so many catalogers have retired & not been replaced/cataloging departments downsized, much of this institutional knowledge is lost to anyone who doesn't work at a giant institution with lots of catalogers. #critlib
Tina Gross @aboutness · Nov 14, 2018
Replying to @aboutness
My understanding would've been that since it's a cross reference, TX715.2.S68 should be used! #critlib

Tina Gross @aboutness
Wait, I might be looking at the wrong thing... #critlib

Violet Fox 🐾 @violetbfox · Nov 14, 2018
To start off very broadly, what did you think of the chapter? Did you have any questions about what the author is arguing? #critlib

Margaret Joyce @magsjoy20
It was interesting to think that because of the overlap in content for these cookbooks, a good deal of their classification depends on marketing. #critlib #critcat

zemkat @zemkat · Nov 14, 2018
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Allison Bailund @read_away
Same, I've seen so many records where only 1 subject heading was applied even though the piece is clearly about multiple topics. #critlib
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Yes! I would love to learn more about how these changes are made. What is the activism/policy involved? Are there other notable cases? What are some of the (I know there are a lot) other problematic headings that are ripe for change now? #critlib

I thought it was great, not least of all because I work with a large collection of cookbooks and the article taught me a lot of useful vocabulary that I'll bear in mind when describing them! #critlib #critlib
A quick web search doesn't bring me back results about this heading change, but I know it was a long time in coming. The amount of work is staggering, not only with the hierarchy itself... (1/2) #critlib

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i think what the author meant was that because Soul food cooking is a UF for African American cooking in LCSH, if the LCC were to be made, it would be a UF there as well because LCC is supposed to match LCSH in terms used, i think?

#CritLib #CritCat
Sometimes when I see problems like this, I wonder if one cataloger did the subjects (without thinking much about their completeness or order) and later someone else did the classification just based on the first subject heading. #critlib

Allison Bailund @read_away · Nov 14, 2018
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Gamaliel @wikigamaliel

As someone without any deep knowledge of this subject area trying to process some 1200 cookbooks, my evaluation is unfortunately going to be based on the book's presentation and marketing without the time, knowledge and resources to go much further. #critlib #critcat

Karla Jurgemeyer @karlajuregemeyer

*potentially unpopular opinion alert* I had mixed feelings about the chapter. For a general audience (which it was), I liked it. As a stand alone for a library-staff audience, I felt it ignored the practicalities of managing collections. #critlib
Violet Fox 🐱 @violetbfox · Nov 14, 2018
Replying to @violetbfox @_AlexGuillen
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Violet Fox 🐱 @violetbfox

... But going back & determining which heading should be assigned to all the works in LC's catalog. There's no way to automate that, they have to go through title by title and determine was this book about "God" as a concept or about the Christian God? (2/2) #critlib

Allison Bailund
@read_away

I think that's correct; Soul food cooking is not a subject, it's listed under African American cooking, and the call number for the main subject is what is used. #critlib

Oubliette Avram  🇺🇸
@Op... · Nov 14, 2018
Replying to @aboutness
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#CritLib #CritCat
Yes, great point @magsjoy20. Catalogers are nearly always highly dependent on how a book is selling itself, whether that's accurate or not. That can lead to some real problems in the case of people trying to sell a book as something it's not. #critlib

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Teghan Pryor-Darnell @tegalex
See, to me, it is baffling that we are using US systems to try and classify the world's knowledge #critlib #culturalimperialism

Teghan Pryor-Darnell @tegalex · Nov 14, 2018
See, to me, it is baffling that we are using US systems to try and classify the world's knowledge #critlib #culturalimperialism
TX715.2.S68 is for Southern style cooking, which may be leading to your confusion? #critlib

Wait, I might be looking at the wrong thing... #critlib

See Violet Fox 🐱's other Tweets

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See, to me, it is baffling that we are using US systems to try and classify the world’s knowledge #critlib
#culturalimperialism

See Alex Guillen’s other Tweets

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Margaret Joyce
@magsjoy20

Certainly. I have cataloged a lot of community cookbooks lately, and often I would love to have some organizing principle presented to me beyond recipes that this high school class' parents turned in. #critlib #critcat

See Margaret Joyce's other Tweets
Yep. Foodways is a particularly tricky subject for classification since it covers so many different things. Is adding 8 subject headings (like in the example) a good solution? I think it's probably the best solution LCSH gives us? #critlib

John Mark Ockerbloom

I found it a bit odd how the chapter made very little reference (if any?) to computer searching, even though it came out in 2015. By then online was the dominant way of searching catalogs, and it's different enough from card-based searching to raise different issues. #critlib

(e.g. with computer search keyword search is very common, and *can* in theory identify works about multiple subjects (though in-practice is another matter). On the other hand, alphabetic subject browsing is less common and less relevant.) #critlib
The short answer is that LC is the gatekeeper for all LCSH and LCC decisions. They make decisions about what the classification should look like. But they encourage other libraries to contribute through the SACO (Subject Authority Cooperative) program. #critlib

Yes! I would love to learn more about how these changes are made. What is the activism/policy involved? Are there other notable cases? What are some of the (I know there are a lot) other problematic headings that are ripe for change now? #critlib

& then the problem can compound when it is glanced over & then via union catalog it is copied multiple times. by the time a proper correction is made, the previous version is already all over the place. that can be very frustrating!

Also a problem our copy of the book goes to storage. If we just have the record to work from, it's harder to argue that it's not really mostly about chicken. #critlib
Now that TX715.2.A47 is established it doesn't really matter. But if I were cataloging that work before TX715.2.A47, I wouldn't have felt prohibited from using TX715.2.S68 because the correspondence between TX715 & "African American cooking" isn't direct. #critlib
I had never met the term ‘foodways’ before reading this chapter—I’m not sure I would even have been able to assign all those headings! (But it also prompts the question of what vocab we expect a patron to have when looking for books on a given subject) #critlib

How did people feel about the suggestion that experts from fields work directly with Policy makers to inform classification structure? #CritLib

I thought it was great, not least of all because I work with a large collection of cookbooks and the article taught me a lot of useful vocabulary that I'll bear in mind when describing them! #critlib #critlib

Yes, although I don’t work with a lot of cookbooks anymore. It also emphasized to me the importance of the order in which you assign subject headings and how many you assign. #CritLib
(Oh, forgot to introduce myself: I'm John, a digital library person in a PA academic library, who does both coding and cataloging to some extent.) #critlib

I'd never heard of it! a whole area of study I knew nothing about [beyond studying a menu to get my comp on] #CritLib
I am sorry that I broke my website an hour ago because @meadowlion & I organized an LCSH suggest a thon this spring where we collected headings to work on. Here's the viewable spreadsheet with those answers: docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d… #critlib

The short answer is that LC is the gatekeeper for all LCSH and LCC decisions. They make decisions about what the classification should look like. But they encourage other libraries to contribute through the SACO (Subject Authority Cooperative) program. #critlib

Suggest an LCSH form (Responses)
responses Timestamp,What term are you suggesting be added or revised?,Is this a heading that needs to be added or a

... But going back & determining which heading should be assigned to all the works in LC's catalog. There's no way to automate that, they have to go through title by title and determine was this book about "God" as a concept or about the Christian God? (2/2) #critlib

Fairly soon after I started at my current job, we did a big project to clean up the "God" subject headings. It was gigantic, and my library is just medium-sized. #critlib
MARCStalker and the Warriors from OCLC
@marccold

Ignore for the moment that no one would use "physicians" as a keyword, also, the above was all #critlib #critcat

2:31 AM - Nov 14, 2018

See MARCStalker and the Warriors from OCLC's other Tweets

Oubliette Avram
@OpOnions

What did you think about "Foodways" itself as a subject heading? Is it needed in LCSH or is it sufficiently covered by "Food habits"? #critlib

2:31 AM - Nov 14, 2018

See Oubliette Avram's other Tweets

Alissa M.
@lissertations

I like it a lot, but it sounds like a power struggle waiting to happen #critlib

2:32 AM - Nov 14, 2018

See Alissa M.'s other Tweets
I had never heard of it either! The author accurately notes that food culture experts know more than catalogers do about this, but that's true of almost everything catalogers catalog! We're often jacks of all trades, which makes subject analysis tricky. #critlib

We do go back and fix things though, like disambiguating all those name records. Seems more likely that people would organize to disambig the God heading than say, Ghouls and ogres. #critlib

I thought it was interesting, but wonder how the processes to change LCSH and LCC need to be adjusted to accommodate that?

yeah, i fear that it could lead to a giant overhaul of a given subject area, and i can't imagine that that's something LC would be particularly keen on #CritLib
I see the irony in trying to clean up ontologies related to describing God - cf @TheTweetOfGod #critlib twitter.com/aboutness/stat...

Tina Gross @aboutness
Replying to @violetbfox @_AlexGuillen
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Oubliette Avram @OpOnions
Replying to @k_swickard
great question, because of course LC itself *has* subject experts throughout their cataloging staff whom they consult #CritLib

Robin Desmeules @RobinDesmeules · Nov 14, 2018
Replying to @OpOnions
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Violet Fox @violetbfox
Well it could just look like librarians who are working on subject heading proposals reaching out to experts to get their opinions, it doesn't have to be formalized. It could also look like tweeting out a proposal and seeing what people think; I've done that before. #critlib
Wow! Yes - I think the focus of this chapter on one specific cooking example worked to illustrate the scale of the changes that need to be made...and your note here reminded me to think of the project on a scale of individual (varied size!) libraries. 😊 #critlib

Fairly soon after I started at my current job, we did a big project to clean up the "God" subject headings. It was gigantic, and my library is just medium-sized. #critlib

So true! I just cataloged/classed hundreds of books about coal, and while I think I did a decent job (and WOW I know lots more about coal now), I'm sure coal experts would cringe at some of my decisions. #critlib

I was interested in the chapter's discussion of an Italian American cookbook being class as an Italian cookbook, with no distinction made. I can totally see where there could be a reason to distinguish, that it's meaningful for some users/purposes. #critlib
But I also kind of shudder at the prospect of catalogers looking at cookbooks and trying to make this determination. #critlib

Tina Gross @aboutness

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Violet Fox @violetbfox

#critlib When we propose additions or revisions to subject headings, we're given this list of authoritative resources as a starting place for our research: loc.gov/aba/pcc/saco/r…. Lots of encyclopedias, dictionaries, professional organization created materials. twitter.com/MLeonStewart/s...

M. Leon Stolas @MLeonStewart

Replying to @k_swickard @OpOnions
this is a great question, and one that I believe @RobinDesmeules has voiced interest in as well -- how do we form and enforce this concept of "authority", and what problems come along with that?

Alissa M. @lissertations

A quick keyword search in MPOW's catalogue for 'foodways' suggests we've been using the lcsh 'food habits' and also 'food—social aspects' as a subdivision, but idk if that really cuts it? #critlib
Violet Fox @violetbfox

Please remember to use the #critlib hashtag on all your tweets. Have pity on your poor moderators, darlings.

2:38 AM - Nov 14, 2018

Oubliette Avram @OpOnions

Replying to @k_swickard alas!

#CritLib

2:40 AM - Nov 14, 2018

Tina Gross @aboutness · Nov 14, 2018

Replying to @aboutness

But I also kind of shudder at the prospect of catalogers looking at cookbooks and trying to make this determination. #critlib

2:40 AM - Nov 14, 2018

Violet Fox @violetbfox

Then do we have Italian Canadian cookbooks, and Italian Mexican cookbooks, and so on? That seems like a job for keywords and not classification numbers, to be honest.

#critlib

4 2:40 AM - Nov 14, 2018
Along with consulting experts, it's also useful to follow what 'lay' people are calling various subjects (not so much for classification as for terminology). Most catalogs, after all, are going to be mainly searched by lay people. Wikipedia can be useful for this.

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it can be useful to gather links to other sources but the Policy office doesn't allow direct citations to Wikipedia anymore in subject/class proposals.
this is a great question, and one that I believe @RobinDesmeules has voiced interest in as well -- how do we form and enforce this concept of "authority", and what problems come along with that?

Yeah, that is THE (eternal and ubiquitous) QUESTION. #critlib

I did not know that! Do you know why this policy was changed? #critlib

it can be useful to gather links to other sources but the Policy office doesn't allow direct citations to Wikipedia anymore in subject/class proposals #CritLib

Booo. If LC authority files can cite random webpages then certainly Wikipedia will do for this purpose. #CritLib
A question: as keyword searching only increases in popularity for access do people feel that updating subject terminology will take a backseat? If all resources about foodways include foodways in their title/summary/chapter titles, etc. is it crucial to make it an LCSH? #CritLib

John Mark Ockerbloom
@JMarkOckerbloom

Well, for a while I was seeing it cited a *lot* in authority records (mostly name authority records, & disturbingly often for factual assertions). Will they allow it for terminology suggestions, though? (WP is often well ahead of LCSH in reflecting current terminology.) #critlib
Violet Fox 🐯 @violetbfox · Nov 14, 2018  
#critlib When we propose additions or revisions to subject headings, we’re given this list of authoritative resources as a starting place for our research: loc.gov/aba/pcc/saco/r…. Lots of encyclopedias, dictionaries, professional organization created materials.

twitter.com/MLeonStewart/s…

M. Leon Stolas 🦁숭어⭐ @MLeonStewart  
Replying to @k_swickard @OpOnions

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Violet Fox 🐯  
@violetbfox

This, of course, excludes so many people and viewpoints who aren't traditionally published/credentialled. We have to trust that *those* people are representing a wide diversity of viewpoints in their fields, and of course oftentimes they're not. #critlib

♥ 6  2:43 AM - Nov 14, 2018

See Violet Fox 🐯’s other Tweets

Oubliette Avram 🦃💀 @… · Nov 14, 2018  
Replying to @JMarkOckerbloom and 2 others  

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zemkat

@zemkat

Also the Wikipedia community has its own process for creating and maintaining categories/subjects, so you can end up with similar issues as LCSH

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia… #critlib

♥ 2  2:44 AM - Nov 14, 2018

See zemkat’s other Tweets
that sounds like a big step back. It's straightforward enough to determine how credible a wikipedia article is, and so many of them are quite good #critlib

Robin Desmeules
@RobinDesmeules

it can be useful to gather links to other sources but the Policy office doesn't allow direct citations to Wikipedia anymore in subject/class proposals#CritLib

Alissa M. @lissertations Nov 14, 2018
Replying to @OpOnions and 3 others
I did not know that! Do you know why this policy was changed? #critlib

Tina Gross
@aboutness

Could it be because Wikipedia content is so likely to change/be revised? #critlib

Alissa M. @lissertations Nov 14, 2018
Replying to @OpOnions and 3 others
I did not know that! Do you know why this policy was changed? #critlib

Oubliette Avram @OpOnions Nov 14, 2018
I don't know precisely when, it appears in the July 2015 revision of H 202: loc.gov/aba/publicatio... and is mentioned often in the editorial note summaries #critlib
A question: as keyword searching only increases in popularity for access do people feel that updating subject terminology will take a backseat? If all resources about foodways include foodways in their title/summary/chapter titles, etc. is it crucial to make it an LCSH? #CritLib

So definitely we can't assume that all resources about foodways will include the keyword "foodways". But we can predict that algorithms will begin to pick up on the idea that "foodways" is close in meaning to "food culture", etc., and show users both terms together.
#critlib

as an example: several of us collaborated on Asexual people and Asexuality (Sexual orientation) headings -- i'm very proud of that work

but i haven't seen a resource they could be applied to that doesn't have the term 'Asexual' in the title/summary/chap titles, etc. #CritLib
M. Leon Stolas

I agree -- it feels like it would be much more useful & productive to develop a scrutiny method for the articles rather than just removing them as sources wholesale! #critlib #critcat

Robin Desmeules

that sounds like a big step back. It's straightforward enough to determine how credible a wikipedia article is, and so many of them are quite good #critlib

Violet Fox

Is that true, though, that it's easy to determine how credible a Wikipedia article is? It is if it's well written and well sourced with current sources that haven't rotted. That's definitely not true for all articles. #critlib
Indeed. I'm not saying there aren't issues with WP's processes (and I don't want to derail this #critlib too much onto WP). But it's an important way to hear from communities outside the usual library ones. (E.g. their terms for indigenous groups often seem notably better than LC's)

A question: as keyword searching only increases in popularity for access do people feel that updating subject terminology will take a backseat? If all resources about foodways include foodways in their title/summary/chapter titles, etc. is it crucial to make it an LCSH? #CritLib

Really interesting question! My first gut reaction was a student's righteous "YES" but then I wonder / don't know - are these headings used anywhere else in a book's life (algorithms for purchasing, etc) that would benefit from the LCSH change (or hurt from no change)? #critlib
A question: as keyword searching only increases in popularity for access do people feel that updating subject terminology will take a backseat? If all resources about foodways include foodways in their title/summary/chapter titles, etc. is it crucial to make it an LCSH? #CritLib

I would expect that there have been lots of books written before the term "foodways" became common that we would absolutely consider to be about foodways. #critlib

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a great point! though of course whose workplace has time for retrospective cataloging...

but yes, this is absolutely an important point!! #CritLib

Really interesting question! My first gut reaction was a student's righteous "YES" but then I wonder / don't know - are these headings used anywhere else in an book's life (algorithms for purchasing, etc) that would benefit from the LCSH change (or hurt from no change)? #critlib

Subject headings/classifications are used for collection development decision making; "we need more resources in the NX area" for example. #critlib
Oubliette Avram 🧑‍🎨auledente Avram 🧑‍🎨O @OplOnions
as an example: several of us collaborated on Asexual people and Asexuality (Sexual orientation) headings -- i'm very proud of that work
but i haven't seen a resource they could be applied to that doesn't have the term 'Asexual' in the title/summary/chapter titles, etc. #CritLib

zemkat
@zemkat
Right? How do you apply the heading retrospectively? You could search for the books about the topic... but then you could have searched for them before. :/

Violet Fox 🎀@violetbfox
We've got ten minutes left in the #critlib chat. It's been busy and hopefully the lurkers out there (hello!) have found it interesting?? Should we consider whether we want to move forward with proposing new headings based on this chapter?

Alex Guillen 🧑‍实实在 @AlexGuille
Right! So then I think yes, still necessary? Also just for the sake of having the "official" headings as representational & accurate as possible is a right to all those being represented - humans & subjects & books! #critlib
Teghan Pryor-Darnell  
@tegalex

I gotta eat my lunch #CritLib Cant fight the revolution if I starve. Stay in touch.

3 2:51 AM - Nov 14, 2018

Oubliette Avram  
@OpOnions

Replying to @rowmyboat
that's a great point i hadn't considered! thanks for adding that #critlib

2:52 AM - Nov 14, 2018

John Mark Ockerbloom  
@JMarkOckerbloom

Though it'll miss books about asexual issues that are in other languages, as well as records with chapters that don't include chapter title information. So it's still useful to assign.  #critlib

3 2:52 AM - Nov 14, 2018
M. Leon Stolas

in this case I wonder how much of it is inherent in the topic itself -- with marginalized gender & sexuality, so much labor is still being done informing folks about existence. perhaps these headings don't seem valuable short term but will become useful with age #critlib #critcat

Oubliette Avram

as an example: several of us collaborated on Asexual people and Asexuality (Sexual orientation) headings -- i'm very proud of that work

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Violet Fox

I don't know about the case for "Foodways," to be honest. I don't think "Food habits" is a terrible heading, and while it's not the same as foodways, it definitely overlaps quite a bit. #critlib
Sometimes older materials are newly cataloged though. I do a lot of original cataloging for 1970-1990s material. I assume that's rare, but it probably does come up in specialized collections.

Tina Gross
@aboutness

I think the case for an LCSH for "Foodways" is really strong. Because of its interdisciplinary nature, an LCC is much tougher. #critlib

Robin Desmeules
@RobinDesmeules

fair point, it's not perfect, but I still don't think that's enough of a case to discount it entirely. #critlib
Also, once there's an established heading in LCSH, smarter catalogs can do things like automatically use cross-referenced terms and narrower headings in retrieving results, making even keyword search results richer. (Not many catalogs are now this smart, but some are.) #critlib

Though it'll miss books about asexual issues that are in other languages, as well as records with chapters that don't include chapter title information. So it's still useful to assign. #critlib

this is an extremely prevalent issue with gender and sexual identity minorities too -- items published in a different time can have an entirely different vocabulary! it's a whole added layer of challenge for us #critlib #critcat
Big help with fiction, though! #critlib

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Oubliette Avram
@OpOnions

I think it has merit -- there's something more complex than Food habits from my understanding it seems like it could be an NT of Food--Social aspects and Food--Economic aspects, both of which would need to be co-proposed #CritLib

Violet Fox 🦊 @violetbfox · Nov 14, 2018

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See Oubliette Avram’s other Tweets

I see more of a case to be made for "Soul food cooking" to be separated out from "African American cooking," but I hate that the TX715.2 hierarchy is organized alphabetically so they'd be separated on the shelf.

#critlib

Violet Fox 😺 @violetbfox · Nov 14, 2018

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#critlib

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#critlib
yes! a really important point i missed, glad to be reminded #critlib

I do a lot of comics cataloging and I can say that Lesbian comics (now a genre term) often did not show up in keyword searching, but that might just be because of how poorly comics are cataloged ... #critlib
Tina Gross
@aboutness

It's way broader even than "Food habits" and "Food--Social aspects" combined. (As I understand it, which might not be very well!) #critlib

Violet Fox 🐞 @violetbfox · Nov 14, 2018

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Ms. Chloe, ghost librarian
@cbragg34

@OpOnions Let's Talk About Love by @KannClaire is an example of fiction that has "Asexual people" as a subject heading. Also it's a great book, so the heading is both useful and validating. #critlib
twitter.com/rowmyboat/stat...

Oubliette Avram 💀 @Op... · Nov 14, 2018

Replying to @violetbfox

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Violet Fox 🐞 @violetbfox

I think we'd need to look more closely at works in WorldCat to see how easy (or not) the distinction would be for catalogers to make. I could imagine many books touching on all those topics. #critlib
i mean obviously my great personal fight is to separate out Jewish cooking from Israeli cooking but that conflation of two things has spread so far throughout LCC that...i think it's a lost cause #CritLib

#critlib

*whew* Nearly out of time for this #critlib chat! Any last questions? Any volunteers to work on either Foodways or Soul food cooking #LCSH proposals? It would be some work, I'll be honest with you!
Yeah, sometimes we run into "you say collocation, I say erasure" situations #critlib

I see more of a case to be made for "Soul food cooking" to be separated out from "African American cooking," but I hate that the TX715.2 hierarchy is organized alphabetically so they'd be separated on the shelf. #critlib

See MARCStalker and the Warriors from OCLC's other Tweets

*whistles under breath* *grimace emoji* #critlib

See Violet Fox 🐱's other Tweets

Let's Talk About Love by @KannClaire is an example of fiction that has "Asexual people" as a subject heading. Also it's a great book, so the heading is both useful and validating. #critlib

twitter.com/rowmyboat/stat...
One thousand times this, @marccold. So many complaints about separating ("ghettoizing") groups/concepts in classification, which is, last I checked, the entire idea. If the whole idea of classification is a bad idea, okay, then say that, but let's be clear. #critlib

MARCStalker and the Warriors fro...
Replying to @violetbfox
Yeah, sometimes we run into "you say collocation, I say erasure" situations #critlib

Violet Fox 🐱
@violetbfox

white people are crying because we won't stop using these "ugly" words. give us a little credit. there's a difference between the two. it's ok if you don't understand...i really don't think you do. #critlib

Yeah, sometimes we run into "you say collocation, I say erasure" situations #critlib

M. Leon Stolas 🍃🍂
@MLeonStewart

this overwhelming feeling isn't yours alone, either. it's not a secret that gender & sexuality headings are a mess! (you've worked on them yourself!) I do still think it's important for us to keep fighting as much and as often as we can, though, even w/ the immensity. #critlib

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Oubliette Avram ⚡️🎨
@OpOnions

I want to thank you all for coming out to chat today, and a hearty double thanks to the co-mods @MLeonStewart, @RobinDesmeules and of course triple thanks to @violetbfox for leading the charge! #critlib

I want to thank you all for coming out to chat today, and a hearty double thanks to the co-mods @MLeonStewart, @RobinDesmeules and of course triple thanks to @violetbfox for leading the charge! #critlib
"Foodways" presents a tricky co-extensivity problem. If such a heading existed, it really shouldn't be assigned to works that only discuss one aspect of the broad topic (say, just food habits), but they might still have the term in their title. Whew! #critlib

Incredibly grateful to my comoderators @MLeonStewart @OpOnions @RobinDesmeules and to everyone who participated and/or lurked tonight. Please know that your support means *everything*. Follow #critcat in the future to stay in the know! #critlib

it feels like a tightrope walk sometimes, doesn't it? we need to tease out differences enough that we aren't erasing, but not so much that we're exoticizing or placing the concept on a pedestal #critlib
Alex Guillen
@_AlexGuillen

Thank you! This was so fun & informative! Looking forward to the next. #critlib

3 3:03 AM - Nov 14, 2018

See Alex Guillen's other Tweets

Oubliette Avram
@OpOnions

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3:03 AM - Nov 14, 2018

See Alex Guillen's other Tweets

zemkat
@zemkat

Thank you all -- great chat, #critlib!

twitter.com/OpOnions/status/

3:04 AM - Nov 14, 2018

See zemkat's other Tweets

Oubliette Avram
@OpOnions

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3:04 AM - Nov 14, 2018

See zemkat's other Tweets

Alex Guillen
@_AlexGuillen

Replying to @OpOnions and 3 others

Thank you! This was so fun & informative! Looking forward to the next. #critlib

3:04 AM - Nov 14, 2018

See Alex Guillen's other Tweets

Violet Fox
@violetbfox

Thanks so much for participating, Alex, we're glad to have you on board! #critlib

3:04 AM - Nov 14, 2018

See Violet Fox's other Tweets
M. Leon Stolas
@MLeonStewart

thanks for joining us tonight, all! special shouts out to @OpOnions @RobinDesmeules & @violetbfox for letting me stumble through this with them!! I look forward to more #critlib #critcat talks to come!

Robin Desmeules
@RobinDesmeules

thank you for leading the discussion, @violetbfox and to everyone for their insights, questions, and musings. #critlib

Violet Fox
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MARCStalker and the Warriors from OCLC
@marccold

Thank YOU, mods, esp Netanel for coming back briefly-super interesting read! #critlib
Margaret Joyce
@magsjoy20

Thanks for the great chat! #critlib

Violet Fox 🐱 @violetbfox · Nov 14, 2018
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Margaret Joyce
@magsjoy20

Thanks for the great chat! #critlib

Alissa M. @lissertations

Thanks so much all for a great #critlib chat :)  

Robin Desmeules @RobinDesmeules · Nov 14, 2018
Replying to @violetbfox and 2 others
thank you for leading the discussion, @violetbfox and to everyone for their insights, questions, and musings. #critlib

John Mark Ockerbloom @JMarkOckerbloom

Thank you all, organizers, moderators, and participants! #critlib
As a ref librarian, I don't have as much exposure to current topics in cataloging as I would like. Enjoyed reviewing this #critlib chapter on how #LCSH and #LCC standards often marginalize concepts and hinder access to culturally relevant material.
dropbox.com/s/gksmoamg0a2s...

Dethroning the deceitful pork chop...
Shared with Dropbox
dropbox.com

YES. I wish I was at this conference on critlib.
twitter.com/librarian_lali...

Lalitha @librarian_lali
Neutrality is polite oppression. - @CityThatReads (keynote at #CLAPS2018)