

Literature Summary

| Key Themes/Topics | |
|--|---|
| Author | Date: Place of publication: Date |
| Title | |
| What is the problem or issue formulated? | Could it have been approached from a different perspective? (suggest) |
| What is the author's theoretical framework?? | What has not been included or discussed? |
| A research study | |
| What are the basic components of the study design? Numbers; selection; method; measurements | Accuracy, relevance and validity What has not been included? |
| Argument Structure | |
| Outline the logic of the argument | Are there areas where the argument breaks down? |
| Contribution | |
| How does it contribute to my area? How is it useful? | What are the strengths? What are the limitations? |

Literature Summary

An Example

| Key Themes/Topics: Ethnicity, Japanese Americans, Generations | |
|--|---|
| Author: Spickard, P Title <i>Japanese Americans: The Formation of an Ethnic Group</i> | Date: 1998 Place of publication: Twayne Publishers Place: New York |
| What is the problem or issue formulated? <i>Aims to address how JA as an ethnicity has developed and the historical implications and contributions</i> | Could it have been approached from a different perspective? (suggest) <i>More discussion on other JA e.g Hawaii Could have outlined wider American issues rather than focusing on those directly impacting Japanese</i> |
| What is the author's theoretical framework? <i>Ethno-histographical; sociological</i> | What has not been included or discussed? <i>See Limitations</i> |
| A research study | |
| What are the basic components of the study design? Numbers; selection; method; measurements N/A | Accuracy, relevance and validity What has not been included? N/A |
| Argument Structure | |
| Outline the logic of the argument <i>Japanese American are shaped by their past Lists key events (such as WWII, immigration) to support this Concludes that they are an ethnic group based on history, challenges</i> | Are there areas where the argument breaks down? <i>Could be interesting to compare this with other migrant Japanese ethnic groups (e.g.) to Peru Does not indicate where mixed JA fit – are they a part of this group? Is history the main factor? What ongoing aspects help shape this group?</i> |
| Contribution | |
| How does it contribute to understanding of the problem? How is it useful? <i>Contextualises the JA experience within a historical and political setting.</i> | What are the strengths? <i>Detailed and thorough presentation of data</i> What are the limitations? <i>As above – little info about JA in Hawaii, little info about women's experience, Does not challenge the representation of JA</i> |