WEEDING : ITS IMPORTANCE

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Abstract: Weeding is the process of removal of old, obsolete and less used library materials. It is an important part of collection development. Its importance is observed here through different views of many eminent library professionals. The study here briefly analyses the basic parameters or criteria of weeding implementing weeding process in any library. Even methods of weeding are widely discussed here for adopting the process. Inspite of many usefulness of weeding, some of the hindrances make library professionals reluctant to accept this procedure in the library. This study recapitulates the alternatives to weeding for making the non-use library materials to the useful one.

Key words: Weeding, five laws of library science, core collection, MUSTIE, CREW method, weeding barrier.

1. Introduction:

Weeding or deselection is an important part of collection development. Infact, to get more space and to incorporate all new and necessary collection, application of weeding program is highly needed in any kind of library. In the United Kingdom, this term is coined as ‘stock relegation’.

Online Dictionary for Library & Information

Encyclopaedia of Information & Library Science, “weeding is the process of removing material from open access and reassessing its value”. In brief, it can be said that weeding is a kind of process which helps to remove damaged, old and less-used library collection from the stack. Like selection, this process is also a necessary part of collection development programme and needs some decision-making policy.