

SCHOLARLY RESEARCH

In just these few days of reading I have gained some very important understanding about scholarly research. Firstly I understand that there must be a problem or an issue that needs to be clearly defined before we are able to come up with a solution. Upon defining that we must look to collect, organize data from many resources, but it is not merely a collection of information. All sources are not always to be considered to be equal nor are opinions of equal value. Here is one very important factor to note before you begin, and a factor that I certainly will have to come to grips with, and one that many will struggle with and that is 'long time cherished preconceptions.' Once we get that out of the way we should be able to proceed properly and carefully. This is also key for every researcher that 'research is done with the head and not with the heart.'

In scholarly research, we must seek to precisely answer the specific question that has been asked, and it is good to have some prior knowledge of the chosen topic. The researcher will observe the facts and not conjecture as they search for truth, realizing that 'today what is truth may be changed by new discovery. This fact should be humbly accepted. After you have gathered all the evidence it is time to draw your conclusion which should result in an applicable solution to the previously stated problem. Errors of inaccuracy occur when you rush through the investigation or collect material in a careless manner. Scholarly research pays careful attention to all details and is organized through every step of the process.