



ADVOCATING FOR WEEDING OUT OF BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Raj Kumar Vats, Librarian, S.J.K College, Kalanaur

Email: rajkumarvats2012@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This paper is a case study of library policy for weeding the damaged, old, out of date, unused library collections. The paper act to highlight the barriers and the need of weeding library collections. It discusses the criteria used to weed the collections in the library devised by the Library Advisory Committee. The study is limited to the weeding of library books. The weeding procedure at library not only makes the collections vivacious but also helps in marketing of the Library and its resources. This study will be very fruitful for those library professionals who wish to undertake weeding of their collections to make them energetic and updated.

Keywords: Weeding out, Library, Library policy.

INTRODUCTION

Weeding out of books means removing books which are found not useful or not serviceable from a library. With the explosion of information, day by day new information coming up and some of the earlier information are becoming outdated. Saving space is not the only reason for weeding out of books. With passage of time some of the books may get worn out and become useless. That's why the library requires weeding out the useless collection. Weeding is a boring and lazy task for the library staff. The library collections are increasing day by day in a fast rate. Librarians being Gardner of books try to keep the library alive like a garden. They act as a gardener and try to remove the unnecessary collection of books. Weeding out of books is a continuous practice and always regarded as important part of collection development policy. Weeding out of books save the space as well as keep the collection update and dynamic. This process saves the time of the students also. The weeding practice has the implications to both the fourth and fifth law of library science given by Dr. S.R. Ranganathan.

According to the Harrod's Librarian Glossary and Reference Book, "discarding from stock, books which are considered to be of no further use.1"

Uma and Suseela (2013) in their study advocates the importance of weeding in university libraries. Necessity of weeding is applied in order to keep collection up to date and in providing greater accessibility to the users.

Dilevko and Gottlieb (2003)5 discusses the weeding practices in public libraries. The most important factor of weeding is circulation, physical condition and accuracy of collection. They find that librarians believe that weeding practice increases the use of books and user gets satisfaction.

WAY OF WEEDING OUT

1. **Need:** collecting data to determine the need of the weeding out of books.

