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Bias Paradigms

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Poster Presentation P1

BIAS PARADIGMS

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This paper began as an inquiry into the relative lack of source citations originating from developing nations in scholarly work. We hypothesized that there was some form of deliberate exclusion of these articles on the part of researchers in the developed world. However, when we broadened our research we realized that what we realized that this trend was actually part of a larger global dynamic of information as a commodity which is being traded between the developed and developing world. As a result of the commoditization of information, developing countries are at a decided disadvantage because they cannot afford the high price knowledge commands. The developed world has tried to assist the developing world, but this has resulted in a relationship which is neo-colonial in nature, where the developing world is essentially dependent upon the developed world. In fact, “academic colonialism” has led to the stifling of academic advancement in developing countries as developed nations. Whether on purpose or by accident, developed nations substitute their own views and perspectives through the “help” they give to the developing world. Of course, the fact that intervention by the developed world is even happening speaks volumes to the lack of educational capital within these countries. The simple fact that these countries lack resources is a strong reason for the lack of sources from developing nations, as would be the lack of educational capital.