

# Copyright licenses and their impact on access to Grey Literature

**Purpose:** The purpose of this study is to examine the extent to which the type of **license** under which grey works are registered impacts access to these works.

## **Study design:**

I. Study population: The study consist of two groups: First group: Grey literature with traditional copyright  
Second group: Grey literature with Creative Commons Copyright. Title duplication between both groups occurred in four cases where identical content was published in multiple venues.

II. Tiles were available through **open access** sources. All publication examined were in the social sciences, specifically in the area of **Critical Information Studies**. Their degree of **greyness** was determined by their **first venue of publication**

II. Method: A pre determined list of twenty unique titles was compiled. Half the titles were published under Traditional copyright license and half under Creative Commons licenses.

## **Findings:**

Full text availability for GreyCC titles is double that of GreyC in popular search engines when archived in **open access** repositories.

2. Search engines results showed no statistically Significant results in **metadata** retrieval (when separated from full text results)

3. Commercial **citation index** (Scopus) indexed only titles that were published in multiple venues when one of these venues was **not** grey.

## **Conclusion:**

Archiving policies with regard to open access had greater positive impact of access to grey literature Independent of licensing conditions.

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To be continued:

The author wish to continue and develop an effective methodology to examine large scale data in terms of affects of copyright licensing and archiving policies on access to grey literature

Researchers interested in collaboration, or who have suggestions for a methodology to identify instances and cull data, are encouraged to contact me

Debbie Rabina  
[drabina@pratt.edu](mailto:drabina@pratt.edu)