

LESS MONEY, LESS CHILDREN, AND LESS PRESTIGE: DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MALE AND FEMALE ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS

Nicole Eva, Mê-Linh Lê, & John Sheriff

Academic librarianship is a heavily feminized profession, with an estimated 74% female workforce (CAUT, 2017). As a result, academic librarians have to grapple with the impacts of pregnancy and motherhood on their professional and personal lives in a way not seen in other areas of academia. In comparison to their male counterparts who have children, female academic librarians must also manage the visible and solitary nature of pregnancy and, despite advances in the sharing of domestic responsibilities, are still frequently seen as the primary parent and take on the majority of caregiving and domestic duties (Moyser & Burlock, 2018). Building on earlier work (Eva, 2018), we will present data from the second Canadian Census of Academic Librarians to uncover and examine the Canadian experience of motherhood and librarianship, specifically by looking at potential connections between number of dependants and position stability (e.g., tenure or contract), areas of expertise (i.e., administrative or management positions), income, and academic rank. By comparing census trends between academic librarian mothers and the general population we consider what it means to be an academic librarian, what it means to be a mother, and the ways in which those identities intersect and / or remain in opposition.