

MORAL COURAGE

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this study was to provide insight into how moral courage was practiced among public middle and high school librarians and to what extent perceived self-efficacy related to moral courage.

UNDERLYING RESEARCH QUESTIONS

What is the school librarian's perception of ability to succeed in specific library related situations or accomplishing library related tasks?

When confronted with an ethical dilemma that causes the school librarian to be fearful or anxious, what action is taken despite associated risks?

How might gender influence the practice of moral courage?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Code of Ethics
The Moral in Moral Courage
Self-efficacy
Gender

METHODOLOGY



QUALITATIVE SEMI-
STRUCTURED
INTERVIEWS



12 PUBLIC HIGH
SCHOOL
LIBRARIANS



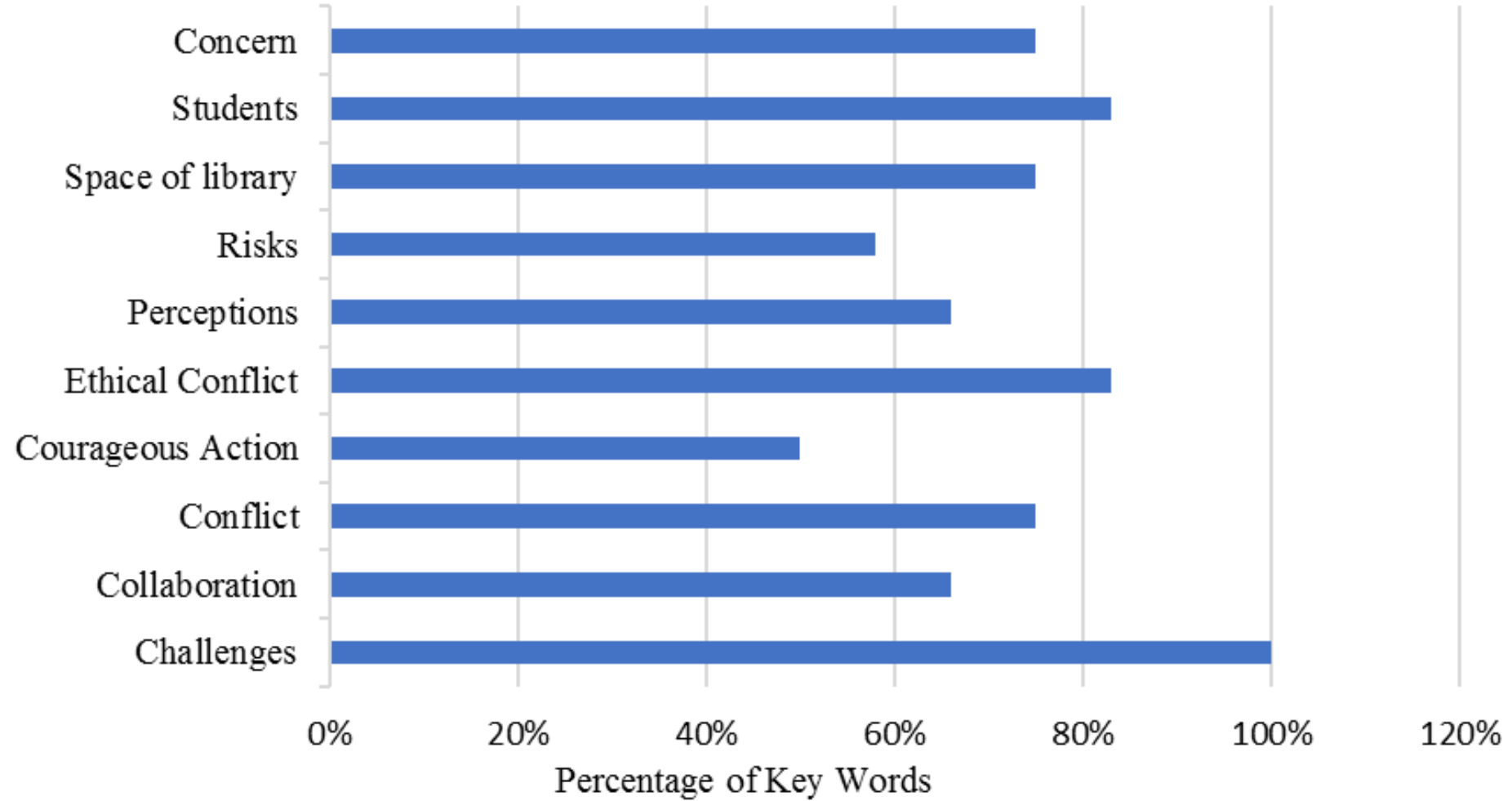
2 MALES



10 FEMALES

Librarian identification	Grades served	Gender	Shared duties	Tenured	Awareness of ALA's code of ethics
F1	9th - 12	F	No	Yes	Yes
F2	7th - 8th	F	No	Yes	Yes
F3	9th - 12th	F	No	Yes	Yes
F4	9th - 12th	F	No	Yes	Somewhat. I don't look at it often
M5	7th - 12th	M	No	Yes	Vaguely familiar
F6	9th - 12th	F	Yes	Yes	I know it exists
F7	9th - 12th	F	No	Yes	Yes, I am
F8	9th - 12th	F	Yes	Yes	Vaguely
F9	8th - 9th	F	No	Yes	Yes. Not super familiar with them
F10	9th - 12th	F	Yes	Yes	Yes
F11	PreK - 12th	F	No	No	I've read it, yes
M12	8th - 12th	M	No	No	I'm familiar with it

Categories from data



CHALLENGES FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

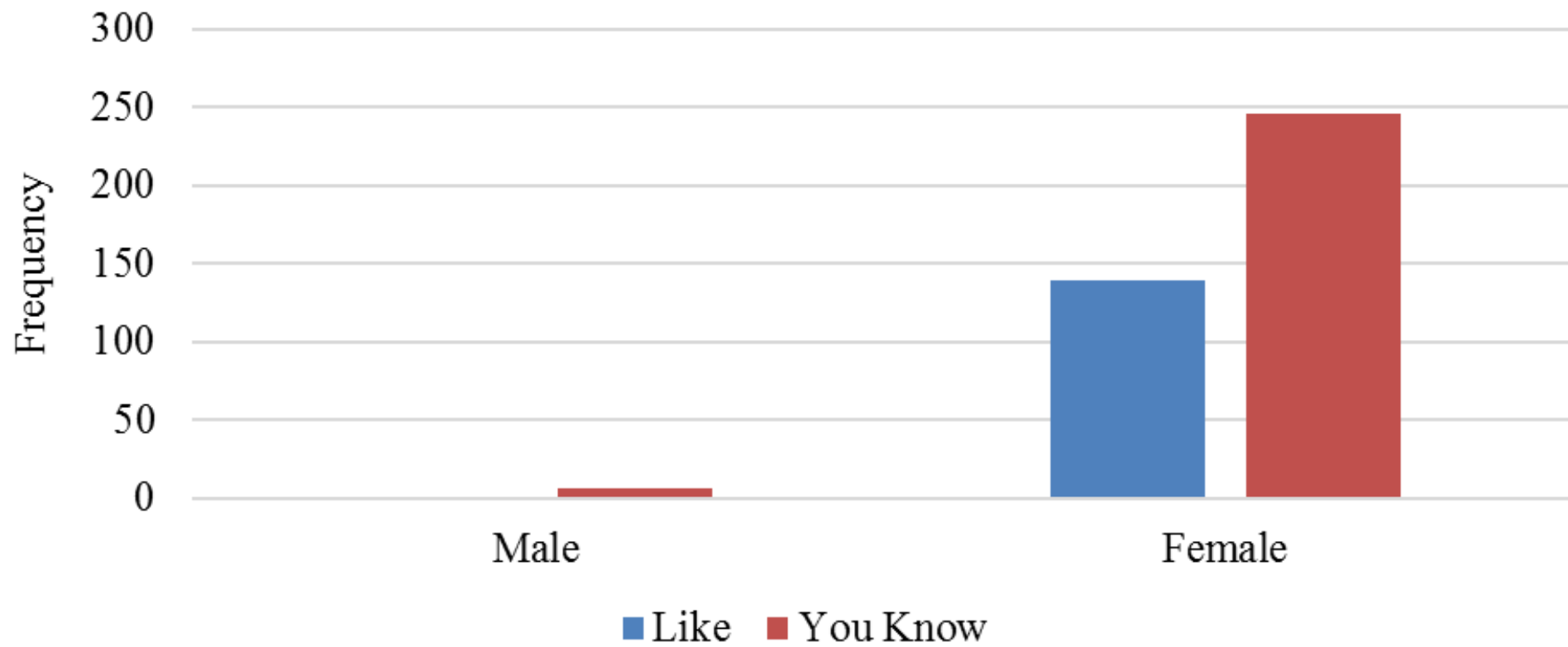


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GENDER AND COMMUNICATION

A surprise finding

Speech and Gender



FINDINGS

- * The librarian is an autonomous agent
- * The librarian is a subordinate agent
- * The librarian is a resilient agent
- * The librarian is a moral agent
- * The librarian is a nurturing agent

Five universal virtues were present among those librarians who practiced moral courage.

1. Compassion
2. Honesty
3. Justice
4. Respect
5. Responsibility

We strive for excellence in the profession by maintaining and enhancing our own knowledge and skills, by encouraging the professional development of coworkers, and by fostering the aspirations of potential members of the profession.

- ALA Code of Ethics, 2008