**Introduction and Annotated Bibliography Prep Sheet**

Basic Research Question: This is a question that links two BASIC CONCEPTS, such as:   
  
RELIGION, HEALTH, FAMILY, EDUCATION, ECONOMY, POLITICS, DEVIANCE, SOCIAL CLASS   
  
Variables: Independent Variable = Cause   
 Dependent Variable = Effect   
  
These are often operationalized as “Frequency of” - some behavior or outcome. Or “incidence of “ some set of events. Perhaps also, “% of,” “level of,” “strength of” etc.  
  
**First Step:** **The Question**.

1. Frame a Basic Research Question:

What is the relationship between \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?  
 Basic Concept Basic Concept

* + 1. Identify an Independent variable = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   
        (Frequency, incidence, %, strength …)

1. Identify a Dependent variable = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Frequency, incidence, %, strength …)

4. Hypothesis: The (higher) the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the (lower) the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(can be greater/lesser, more/less, etc.)

Note: Variables are social realities that VARY. Variables are MEASUREABLE.

**Second Step: Assemble the Annotated Bibliography.**

Find 15 sources to:

Cite correctly (APA format)

Annotate in your own words (See the posted Example for how to do this).

**Third Step: Write the Introduction.**

Note how your sources tend to cluster around similar findings. Use these clusters to organize your Introduction and flesh out what you think you’d find if you were to actually do a study like this. (Did someone mention an Honors Thesis in their future?)

The technical word for that is Theory. It’s really just educated guess work. But it’s informed by how you “educate” yourself by conducting the literature review.

**Use the Example as a guide for structure and format!!!**