



Bibliometric analysis of “Post-Traumatic Stress” in the Psychology Literature

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Abstract

The objective of this study is to determine the papers published on “post-traumatic stress” in psychology literature and to analyse the characteristics of these papers. The researcher listed all the papers published on “post-traumatic stress” topic in psychology literature without a time limit by searching the Social Sciences Citation Index database. Web of Science categories were restricted to "psychology", "psychology clinical", "psychology educational", "psychology multidisciplinary", “psychology developmental”, “behavioural sciences”, “psychology social”, “psychology experimental”, “psychology applied”, “psychology biological”, and “psychology psychoanalysis”. These papers were reviewed by the researcher according to a few criteria such as citations, organizations, article types, authors, country of origin, journal titles, and research areas. There are total of 2366 publications that were retrieved and reviewed on “post-traumatic stress” topic in psychology literature between 2000 and 2018. Each year has a different number of publications. However, the sum of the citations received by those publications increases each year regularly. In this paper, there are 94 articles cited more than h-index (94) and top ten of those 94h-classics are reported. “Psychological Medicine” and “European Journal of Psychotraumatology” are the most prolific journals in the “post-traumatic stress” literature. Also, the most important countries in the psychology literature on the topic of “post-traumatic stress” are the USA, England, Germany, Australia, and the Netherlands. The number of publications on the topic of “post-traumatic stress” in the psychology literature increased meaningfully at the last twelve years and the number of citations received by those publications in this field increased each year regularly. The findings of this study show that “post-traumatic stress” topic attracts more attention of the researchers working in the disciplines related to psychology.

Keywords: Post-traumatic stress, bibliometric analysis, citation analysis.



Introduction

Various events may shape the life of individuals. However, the meaning that a person attaches to an event is more influential than the nature of this event itself. If a person attaches a strong meaning to an event, he/she may be traumatized and psychologically wounded by that event, while the other person may not be traumatized. The effect of trauma on an individual may manifest in various ways. Trauma can leave emotional scars that may last lifelong for some people (Krippner, Pithfold, & Davies, 2012).

Substance use, anger, nightmares, burnout, depression, somatic complaints, hyperarousal, intrusive imagery, poor concentration, and suicide ideation are among the most common symptoms of “post traumatic stress” (Charak, Ford, Modrowski, & Kerig, 2018). Also, some of the symptoms of this disorder may have a reciprocal relationship, such as the strong relationship between stress, anxiety, burnout, and depression (Karakus, 2013; Ozfidan, & Burlbaw, 2017). The symptoms of “post traumatic stress” may sometimes be confused by other types of psychological disorders. Furthermore, the manifestation of this type of disorder differs in persons from different cultures and different backgrounds who have been exposed to different kinds of traumas. Therefore, the diagnosis of “post traumatic stress” should be considered attentively (Krippner & McIntyre, 2003; Brown, 2008). Emotional intelligence (Celik & Karakus, 2012), social support (Dworkin, Ojalehto, Bedard-Gilligan, Cadigan, & Kaysen, 2018), self-efficacy (Guerra, Farkas, & Moncada, 2018), and mindfulness (Williams & Poijula, 2016) were indicated as important factors to cope with “post-traumatic stress” and the related symptoms.

The objective of this study is to identify the publications on “post-traumatic stress” and to analyse various characteristics of those publications to make contributions on psychology literature. To retrieve and to analyse the publications in “post-traumatic stress” topic, this study used “bibliometric analysis”.

Pritchard (1969) defined the term “bibliometrics” as “the application of mathematical and statistical methods to books and other media of communication”. To analyse the research trend related to a subject, bibliometrics can be used as an effective method. Publications are classified according to a number of characteristics in bibliometrics such as; countries of origin, name of institutions, name of authors, name of journals, number of citations received, article types, and research areas.



The number of citations that a publication or a group of publications received is an important indicator used in bibliometrics. When a publication is referred by another peer-reviewed publication, it receives a “citation”. The number of citations is an important indicator that shows the impact and the importance of a publication (Marx, Schier, & Wanitschek, 2001).

In this study, Web of Science (WoS) was used to find the related publications on “post-traumatic stress” in psychology literature. The Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) has been collecting citations and other academic information since 1945 and has been available electronically since 1979. They call their recent journal citation system as “Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI)”. In this study, the related publications in the SSCI index were retrieved and analysed.

Materials and Methods

On March 30, 2018, researcher searched Web of Science to list the articles published in the field of “post-traumatic stress”. The keyword of “post-traumatic stress” was searched in the “topic” field. “Topic” field in Web of Science means that the articles containing “post-traumatic stress” -in their titles, abstracts, author keywords, and keywords plus- were extracted. Among the Citation Indexes in Web of Science Core Collection only the “Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI)” database was searched. Only the articles that were under the categories of “psychology”, “psychology clinical”, “psychology educational”, “psychology multidisciplinary”, “psychology developmental”, “behavioural sciences”, “psychology social”, “psychology experimental”, “psychology applied”, “psychology biological”, and “psychology psychoanalysis” were selected in this research. The author checked the retrieved articles if they are really about post-traumatic stress or not. Only the ones that are really about post-traumatic stress were included and analysed.

“Bibliometric analysis” approach was employed in this study to retrieve and examine the features of the articles on “post-traumatic stress”. Bibliometric analysis is a type of quantitative method to examine the features of bibliographic information in the journals, articles, and literature in general (Narin and Hamilton, 1996). In this study, some of the most common indicators of bibliometric analysis were employed such as; most productive authors, organizations, article types, research areas, h-index, h-classics publications, journal titles, and country of origin.



To extract h-index and h-classics, citation analysis was used in this study. Citation analysis is a quantitative method to evaluate the influence of research (Podsakoff, MacKenzie, Podsakoff, and Bachrach, 2008). The h-index can be defined as the number of papers with citation number $\geq h$ and used as an index to assess the impact of a researcher (Hirsch, 2005). The h-index combines publications with their citations (Cancino, Merigó, & Coronado, 2017).

The concept of "h-classics" was derived from h-index and first introduced by Martínez et al. (2015). It includes highly cited papers with more than h citations and it is among the most popular indicators (Cobo et al., 2014). In this study, the indicators of "h-index" and "h-classics" were employed to extract the high-quality publications.

Results

General Review of the Publications

Total of 2366 publications were checked and retrieved on "post-traumatic stress". The number of publications differs from year to year (Table 1, Figure 1). The reviewed articles are published between 2000 and 2018. When the researcher retrieved those publications, it was the third month of 2018. So, it does not matter that 2018 is at the bottom of this list with 49 publications. Between 2000 and 2005, the number of publications on this topic differs between 49 and 75. At 2006, the number of publications on this field increased significantly (122 publications). 2017 (239 publications) and 2013 (217 publications) have the largest number of publications. Except for 2013, between 2006 and 2016, the number of publications on this topic differs between 107 and 192.

Table 1. Record counts and percentages by publication years

Publication Years	Record Count	% of 2366
2017	239	10.101
2013	217	9.172
2016	192	8.115
2015	178	7.523
2012	169	7.143
2011	159	6.72
2009	152	6.424
2014	148	6.255



2008	129	5.452
2010	128	5.41
2006	122	5.156
2007	107	4.522
2004	75	3.17
2005	72	3.043
2000	70	2.959
2001	60	2.536
2003	51	2.156
2002	49	2.071
2018	49	2.071

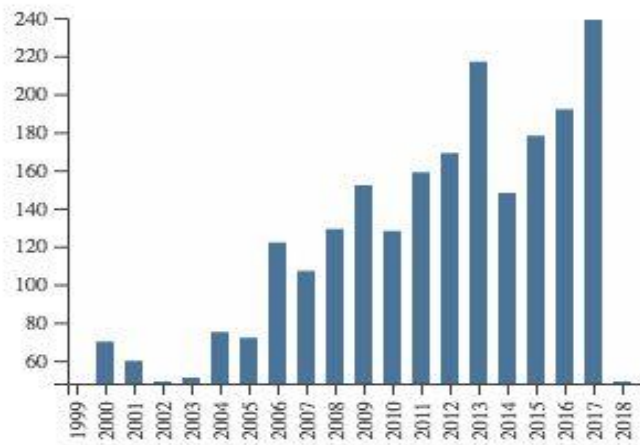


Figure 1. Total publications by year

Table 2 shows the document types retrieved for this manuscript. Most of the publications on this topic are articles (1887, 79.755%). There are 244 meeting abstracts (10.313%), 180 reviews (7.608%), 34 proceeding papers (1.437%), 27 book reviews (1.141%), 20 editorial materials (0.845%), 5 corrections (0.211%), and 3 letters (0.127%).



Table 2. Document types

Document Types	Record Count	% of 2366
Article	1887	79.755
Meeting Abstract	244	10.313
Review	180	7.608
Proceedings Paper	34	1.437
Book Review	27	1.141
Editorial Material	20	0.845
Correction	5	0.211
Letter	3	0.127

Table 3 shows the "Web of Science" categories of the publications retrieved for this study. Most of those publications were in the category of "psychology clinical" (1136 items, 48.014%). The second one is "psychology" (629 items, 26.585%) and the third one is "psychology multidisciplinary" (509 items, 21.513%). The fourth one is "behavioural sciences" (167 items, 7.058%), the fifth one is "psychology developmental" (166 items, 7.016%), the sixth one is "psychology experimental" (157 items, 6.636%), the seventh one is "psychology applied" (130 items, 5.495%), the eighth one is "psychology social" (121 items, 5.114%), and the tenth one is "psychology biological" (72 items, 3.043%). "Psychology psychoanalysis" (32 items, 1.352%) and "psychology educational" (27 items, 1.141%) have the least number of publications.

Table 3. "Web of Science" categories on research areas

Web of Science Categories	Record Count	% of 2366
Psychology Clinical	1136	48.014
Psychology	629	26.585
Psychology Multidisciplinary	509	21.513
Behavioural Sciences	167	7.058
Psychology Developmental	166	7.016
Psychology Experimental	157	6.636
Psychology Applied	130	5.495



Psychology Social	121	5.114
Psychology Biological	72	3.043
Psychology Psychoanalysis	32	1.352
Psychology Educational	27	1.141

H-Classics Publications Analysis

There were totally 2366 publications in this study, average citation per item was 20.28, sum of times cited was 49977, sum of times without self-citations was 45538, and *h-index* was calculated as 94. So, the publications with have number of citations higher than *h-index* were reported as *h-classics* in this article.

Results show that there are 94articles that have *h-index* higher than 94 in the on “post-traumatic stress” topic in psychology literature. Top 10 of the *h-classics* are listed in Table 4, according to the citation report. Half of those top ten *h-classics* are related to the category of “psychology biological”. There are four articles from the journal of “Psychological Medicine” and one from “Biological Psychology”. There two articles in the category of “psychology clinical” from the journals of “Journal of Clinical Psychiatry”, “Journal of Clinical Child Psychology”. From these journals, there is one article for each in the top ten *h-classics* publications; “Psychological Bulletin”, “Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews”, and “Memory”.

The most cited article is "Sex differences in trauma and posttraumatic stress disorder: A quantitative review of 25 years of research (2006)" by Tolin, David F. andFoa, Edna B. from the USA with 656 citations. This article is a meta-analyses yielding sex-specific risk of potentially traumatic events (PTEs) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Findings showed that female participants were more likely than male participants to meet criteria for PTSD, while the females were less likely to experience PTEs. Female participants were less likely to experience accidents, nonsexual assaults, witnessing death or injury, disaster or fire, and combat or war, but more likely than male participants to experience sexual assault and child sexual abuse. Female participants exhibited greater PTSD among victims of specific PTEs (excluding sexual assault or abuse). As a result, sex differences in risk of exposure to particular types of PTE can only partially account for the differential PTSD risk in male and female participants.



The second most cited article is “The neurobiological consequences of early stress and childhood maltreatment (2003)” by Teicher, MH, Andersen, SL, Polcari, A, Anderson, CM, Navalta, CP, and Kim, DM from the USA with 622 citations. The findings showed that early severe stress and maltreatment produces a cascade of neurobiological events that have the potential to cause enduring changes in individuals’ brain development. These kinds of changes may come up on multiple levels, from neurohumoral (especially the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal {HPA} axis) to structural and functional. The major structural consequences of early stress include reduced size of the mid-portions of the corpus callosum, and attenuated development of the left neocortex, hippocampus, and amygdala. Major functional consequences include increased electrical irritability in limbic structures and reduced functional activity of the cerebellar vermis. There are also gender differences in vulnerability and functional consequences. The neurobiological sequelae of early stress and maltreatment was shown to play an important role in the emergence of psychiatric disorders during development.

The third most cited article is “Cognitive-behavioral therapy for adult anxiety disorders: A meta-analysis of randomized placebo-controlled trials (2002)” by Hofmann, Stefan G. and Smits, Jasper A. J. from the USA with 512 citations. This study meta-analytically reviewed the efficacy of CBT versus placebo for adult anxiety disorders. They searched MEDLINE, PsycINFO, PubMed, Scopus, the Institute of Scientific Information databases including the term of obsessive-compulsive disorder, social phobia, social anxiety, PTSD, post-traumatic stress disorder, and acute stress disorder. Of 1165 studies that were initially identified, 27 met all inclusion criteria. There were no significant differences in attrition rates between CBT and placebo. The strongest effect sizes were observed in obsessive-compulsive disorder and acute stress disorder, and the weakest effect size was found in panic disorder. The advantage of CBT over placebo did not depend on placebo modality, number of sessions, or study year.

Figure 2 shows the number of citations for the publications in psychology literature on the topic of “post-traumatic stress” each year. The findings show that the number of citations of those publications is increasing regularly from year to year. However, the number of publications on this topic is different each year (Table 1, Figure 1). This result shows that the impact of the items published on the topic of “post-traumatic stress” in psychology literature is increasing from year to year.



Table 4. Top 10 h-classics publications in education-related emotional intelligence literature

Results found	2366			
Sum of the Times Cited	47977			
Average Citations per Item	20.28			
h-index	94			
Title	Authors	Source Title	Publication Date	Total Citations
Sex differences in trauma and posttraumatic stress disorder: A quantitative review of 25 years of research	Tolin, David F.; Foa, Edna B.	Psychological Bulletin	NOV 2006	656
The neurobiological consequences of early stress and childhood maltreatment	Teicher, MH; Andersen, SL; Polcari, A; Anderson, CM; Navalta, CP; Kim, DM	Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews	JAN-MAR 2003	622
Cognitive-behavioral therapy for adult anxiety disorders: A meta-analysis of randomized placebo-controlled trials	Hofmann, Stefan G.; Smits, Jasper A. J.	Journal of Clinical Psychiatry	APR 2008	512
The child PTSD symptom scale: Preliminary examination of its psychometric properties	Foa, EB; Johnson, KM; Feeny, NC; Treadwell, KRH	Journal of Clinical Child Psychology	SEP 2001	379
DSM-IV pathological gambling in the National Comorbidity Survey	Kessler, R. C.; Hwang, I.; LaBrie, R.; Petukhova, M.;	Psychological Medicine	SEP 2008	373



Replication	Sampson, N. A.; Winters, K. C.; Shaffer, H. J.			
Fear extinction in rats: Implications for human brain imaging and anxiety disorders	Milad, MR; Rauch, SL; Pitman, RK; Quirk, GJ	Biological Psychology	JUL 2006	342
Post-traumatic stress disorder following disasters: a systematic review	Neria, Y.; Nandi, A.; Galea, S.	Psychologic al Medicine	APR 2008	337
Post-traumatic stress disorder: findings from the Australian National Survey of Mental Health and Well- being	Creamer, M; Burgess, P; McFarlane, AC	Psychologic al Medicine	OCT 2001	335
Intrusive re-experiencing in post-traumatic stress disorder: Phenomenology, theory, and therapy	Ehlers, A; Hackmann, A; Michael, T	Memory	JUL 2004	263
The structure of common DSM-IV and ICD-10 mental disorders in the Australian general population	Slade, Tim; Watson, David	Psychologic al Medicine	NOV 2006	261

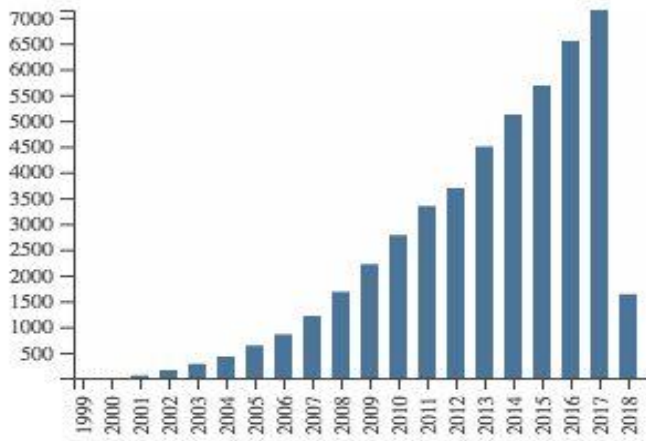


Figure 2. Sum of times cited by year

The Most Prolific Organizations, Authors, Journals, and Countries

According to the number of publications in the psychology literature on the topic of “post-traumatic stress”, the most prolific organizations, authors, journals, and countries are listed in this part. Table 5 shows the top ten organizations. The most prolific organization is "University of London" from UK with 146 publications (6.171%). The second one is “University of California System” from the USA with 99 publications (4.184%), the third one is “Kings College London” from UK with 92 publications (3.888%), the fourth one is "Harvard University" from the USA with 70 publications (2.959%), the fifth one is VA Boston Healthcare System with 62 publications (2.62%), the sixth and seventh ones are “Boston University” from the USA and "University of New South Wales Sydney" from Australia with 47 publications (1.986%). The eighth and ninth ones are "University of Amsterdam" from the Netherlands and “University of Oxford” from the UK with 46 publications each (1.944%). The tenth one is "University College London" from the UK with 45 publications (1.902%).

Table 5. The most prolific organizations

Organizations-Enhanced	Record Count	% of 2366
University of London	146	6.171
University of California System	99	4.184
Kings College London	92	3.888



Harvard University	70	2.959
VA Boston Healthcare System	62	2.62
Boston University	47	1.986
University of New South Wales Sydney	47	1.986
University of Amsterdam	46	1.944
University of Oxford	46	1.944
University College London	45	1.902

Table 6 shows the ten most prolific authors in the psychology literature on the topic of “post-traumatic stress”. The most prolific author in this field is Ayers, S. from City University of London, UK, with 21 publications (0.888%). The second one is Ehlers, A. from University of Oxford, UK with 20 publications (0.845%). The third and fourth ones are Bryant R.A. from University of New South Wales, Australia and Yule, W. from Kings College London, UK with 18 items each (0.761%). The fifth one is Elklit, A. from University of Southern Denmark, Denmark with 15 publications (0.634%). The sixth one is Koenen, K.C. from Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, the USA with 14 publications (0.592%). The seventh one is Holmes, E. A. from University of Oxford, UK with 13 publications (0.540%). The eighth, ninth, and tenth ones are Engelhard, I.M. from Utrecht University, the Netherlands, Nixon, R.D.W. from Flinders University, Australia, and Wessely, S. from Kings College London, UK with 12 publications each (0.507%).

Table 6. The most prolific authors

Authors	Record Count	% of 2366
Ayers S	21	0.888
Ehlers A	20	0.845
Bryant RA	18	0.761
Yule W	18	0.761
Elklit A	15	0.634
Koenen KC	14	0.592
Holmes EA	13	0.549
Engelhard IM	12	0.507
Nixon RDV	12	0.507



Wessely S 12 0.507

According to the number of publications, Table 7 shows the top ten journals in the psychology literature on the topic of “post-traumatic stress”. The first journal is “Psychological Medicine”(179 publications, 7.566%), the second one is "European Journal of Psychotraumatology" (82 publications, 3.466%), the third one is "Journal of Anxiety Disorders" (69 publications, 2.916%), the fourth one is "Psycho Oncology" (52 publications, 2.198%), the fifth one is "Behaviour Research and Therapy" (49 publications, 2.071%), the sixth and seventh ones are "Child Abuse Neglect" and "Frontiers in Psychology" (48 publications each, 2.029%), the eighth one is "Journal of Interpersonal Violence" (40 publications, 1.691%), the ninth one is "British Journal of Clinical Psychology" (39 publications, 1.648%), and the tenth one is "Neurobiology of Learning and Memory" (37 publications, 1.564%).

Table 7. Top 10 journals in the related literature

Source Titles	Record Count	% of 2366
Psychological Medicine	179	7.566
European Journal of Psychotraumatology	82	3.466
Journal of Anxiety Disorders	69	2.916
Psycho Oncology	52	2.198
Behaviour Research and Therapy	49	2.071
Child Abuse Neglect	48	2.029
Frontiers in Psychology	48	2.029
Journal of Interpersonal Violence	40	1.691
British Journal of Clinical Psychology	39	1.648
Neurobiology of Learning and Memory	37	1.564

According to the affiliations of the authors for the publications in the psychology literature on the topic of “post-traumatic stress”, Table 8 shows the most prolific countries of origin. The most prolific country is the USA with 979 publications (41.378%). The second one is England (349 publications, 14.751%), the third one is Germany (172 publications, 7.27%), the fourth one is Australia (155 publications, 6.551%), the fifth one is the



Netherlands (148 publications, 6.255%), the sixth one is Canada (115 publications, 4.861%), the seventh one is Israel(95 publications, 4.015%), the eighth one is Spain (66 publications, 2.79%), the ninth one is Italy (55 publications, 2.325%), and the tenth one Sweden (46 publications, 1.944%).

Table 8. Top 10 countries of origin for the publication record in the field

Countries/Regions	Record Count	% of 2366
USA	979	41.378
England	349	14.751
Germany	172	7.27
Australia	155	6.551
Netherlands	148	6.255
Canada	115	4.861
Israel	95	4.015
Spain	66	2.79
Italy	55	2.325
Sweden	46	1.944

Discussion and Conclusion

The aim of this study is to analyse the characteristics of the publications in the psychology literature on the topic of “post-traumatic stress” through bibliometric analysis. Web of Science was used to find the publications on this topic. Only the ones that were published in the SSCI-indexed journals were retrieved. All the publications using “post-traumatic stress” in their titles, abstracts, author keywords or keywords plus were retrieved. The WoS categories were restricted to "education scientific disciplines", "education, educational research", "education special" and "psychology educational". All these publications were checked if they are really about “post-traumatic stress”.

Most of the publications that are selected for this study are articles and very few of them are in the other categories such as; meeting abstracts, reviews, book reviews, reviews, proceeding papers, book reviews, editorial materials, corrections, and letters. Nearly half of the publications that were selected and analysed in this study are in the category of "psychology clinical". The second one is “psychology” and the third one is “psychology



multidisciplinary". Most of the publications are in those three categories and the rest of them are in the categories of "behavioural sciences", "psychology developmental", "psychology experimental", "psychology applied", "psychology social", "psychology biological", "psychology psychoanalysis", "psychology educational". Between 2000 and 2018, the number of publications differ from year to year. However, sum of the citations those publications receive increase from year to year regularly. It shows that the impact of those publications on the topic of "post-traumatic stress" is increasing every year regularly in the psychology literature.

There are 94 publications that have h-index higher than 94 on the topic of "post-traumatic stress" in the psychology literature. Those are the h-classics on this topic between 2000-2018. Top ten of those h-classics are listed in this study. Half of those top ten h-classics are related to the category of "psychology biological". There are four articles from the journal of "Psychological Medicine" and one from "Biological Psychology". There two articles in the category of "psychology clinical" from the journals of "Journal of Clinical Psychiatry", "Journal of Clinical Child Psychology". From those journals, there is one article for each in the top ten h-classics publications; "Psychological Bulletin", "Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews", and "Memory".

The most cited article "Sex differences in trauma and posttraumatic stress disorder: A quantitative review of 25 years of research (2006)" by Tolin, David F. and Foa, Edna B. from the USA with 656 citations.. The second most cited article is "The neurobiological consequences of early stress and childhood maltreatment (2003)" by Teicher, MH, Andersen, SL, Polcari, A, Anderson, CM, Navalta, CP, and Kim, DM from the USA with 622 citations. The third most cited article is "Cognitive-behavioral therapy for adult anxiety disorders: A meta-analysis of randomized placebo-controlled trials (2002)" by Hofmann, Stefan G. and Smits, Jasper A. J. from the USA with 512 citations.

Ten most prolific organizations are listed in this study, according to the number of publications and authors' affiliations. The most prolific organization is "University of London" (UK), the second one is "University of California System" (USA), the third one is "Kings College London" (UK), the fourth one is "Harvard University" (USA), the fifth one is VA Boston Healthcare System (USA), the sixth and seventh ones are "Boston University" (USA) and "University of New South Wales Sydney" (Australia). The eighth and ninth ones are "University of Amsterdam" (the Netherlands) and "University of Oxford" (UK). The



tenth one is "University College London" (UK). There are four universities from the UK, four of them are from the USA, one is from Australia, and one is from the Netherlands.

The most prolific author in the psychology literature on the topic of “post-traumatic stress” is Ayers, S. from City University of London, UK. The second one is Ehlers, A. from University of Oxford, UK. The third and fourth ones are Bryant R.A. from University of New South Wales, Australia and Yule, W. from Kings College London, UK. The fifth one is Elklit, A. from University of Southern Denmark. The sixth one is Koenen, K.C. from Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, the USA. The seventh one is Holmes, E. A. from University of Oxford, UK. The eighth, ninth, and tenth ones are Engelhard, I.M. from Utrecht University, the Netherlands, Nixon, R.D.W. from Flinders University, Australia, and Wessely, S. from Kings College London, UK. The affiliations of these authors show that five of them are from the UK, 2 of them are from Australia, one is from the USA, one is from Denmark and one is from the Netherlands.

According to the number of publications, the top ten journals in the psychology literature on the topic of “post-traumatic stress”. The first journal is “Psychological Medicine”, the second one is "European Journal of Psychotraumatology", the third one is "Journal of Anxiety Disorders", the fourth one is "Psycho Oncology", the fifth one is "Behaviour Research and Therapy", the sixth and seventh ones are "Child Abuse Neglect" and "Frontiers in Psychology", the eighth one is "Journal of Interpersonal Violence", the ninth one is "British Journal of Clinical Psychology", and the tenth one is "Neurobiology of Learning and Memory".

According to the affiliations of the authors for the publications in the psychology literature on the topic of “post-traumatic stress”, the most prolific countries of origin are listed. The most prolific country is the USA. The second one is England, the third one is Germany, the fourth one is Australia, the fifth one is the Netherlands, the sixth one is Canada, the seventh one is Israel, the eighth one is Spain, the ninth one is Italy, and the tenth one Sweden.

Consequently, when the most prolific organizations, the most cited articles, and authors, and the countries of origin are examined, we can conclude that the most important countries in the psychology literature on the topic of “post-traumatic stress” are the USA, England, Germany, Australia, and the Netherlands. Nevertheless, there are various authors, journals, and institutions all around the world in the “post-traumatic stress” literature. The



number of publications in this field increased significantly at the last twelve years and the number of citations received by those publications in this field increased each year regularly. The findings of this study show that “post-traumatic stress” topic attracts more attention of the researchers working in the disciplines related to psychology.



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