

FROM BOOK READER TO BOOKLOVER: UNDERSTANDING THE ESSENCE OF LIBRARY SERVICES FROM THE EXPERIENCES OF JRU JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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The purpose of this study was to explore the experiences of the junior high school students on the library services and their impact on their personal reading inclination. This study probed into the significance of the existing library services in improving the students' library borrowing and reading habits. The top one-hundred (100) borrowers of the junior high school library were identified by extracting their names from the KOHA library system. They were considered readers of the junior high school library who became booklovers. The top eight (8) of the one hundred booklovers were invited for a focus group discussion and were asked several questions regarding their experiences on library services and how those experiences influenced their book usage and reading habits. A recorded interview was transcribed and analyzed. Results showed that most of the experiences of the booklovers were focused on the library borrowing, collection services and use of technology based services such as computers, net books and internet. Moreover, library services experienced by high school booklovers influenced their book usage and reading habits. Indeed, the library services of the JRU junior high school library played a significant role in increasing students' book usage and in developing their reading habits.