Gaps in Scholarly Knowledge

Only 14% of romance readers obtain romance novels through a public library, so where are the rest of romance readers getting their novels?

Previous studies examined librarians’ perceptions of romance novels and their readers, and how these perceptions influence collection development and reader relationships with libraries. However, the commercial sector has been largely overlooked.

Additionally, former research focused almost exclusively on print formatting, leaving the recent explosion of E-books and E-formats unexplored.

Research Questions

- Where are romance readers acquiring the literature that they read, and subsequently donate?
- What are the perceptions of romance readers outside of libraries? Are commercial settings more welcoming?
- How have E-books and E-readers impacted this trend of purchases and perceptions?

Methodology