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## E-Publishing effects on paper based traditional libraries

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### Abstract

The study looks at electronic publishing and its impact on the traditional library. Publishing has always compliment librarianship. Without publishing of paper books there is not going to be a single book on library shelves. E- Publishing on the other hand looks at books; documents and other print media with do not take the traditional publishing form or process. E- Publishing differs from the traditional publishing in two ways. First is the process through which printing of E-publications take place. Per the study that was conducted, it was found out that e publishing has significant effect on traditional paper libraries and has reduced the library patronage by 55%. it is also evident that that though online publishing has effect on librarianship, not all book, journals, document, information resources can be found in the online or digitally(electronically). This means that the traditional library is still relevant in today's information age. This is because for THE Fear of piracy, copyright infringes and plagiarism, some authors do not want an electronic version of their intellectual property.

**Keywords:** Publishing, effects, paper, based, traditional, libraries

### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Background study

Publishing has always compliment librarianship. Without publishing of paper books there is not going to be a single book on library shelves. E- Publishing on the other hand looks at books; documents and other print media with do not take the traditional publishing form or process. E- Publishing differs from the traditional publishing in two ways. First is the process through which printing of E-publications take place. E-publishing does not require the traditional offset printer or lithographic printer or the ordinary digital printer but rather uses the screen. The mode of disseminating published works of e-publication is through the internet, World Wide Web, intranet, Bluetooth, air drop in the case of apple equipments, and by using mobile phones, personal computers, tablets, television and projectors as opposed to the print media of traditional publications which could be a substrate like paper, metals, plastics and polythene. There are a lot of pros and cons with respect to the use of e-publishing and the traditional publishing. Though the traditional publishing is quite expensive compared to the e-publishing, with e-publishing you only need to upload it on to the internet or the World Wide Web and you are good to go. E-Publishing comes in various forms. It can be music, 3D animation, movies etc with traditional publishing is only on a 2D substrate or paper or just on a surface.

#### 1.2 Statement of Problem

With the advent of the internet, WhatsApp, computers, smart phones and it associated social networks and other social communication applications, students and patrons alike have minimized or entirely stopped their frequent patronage of the library. This is due to the fact that the internet can afford them almost the book or information they may be looking for with little or no data cost. Moreover they can easily email, WhatsApp, or even sent a copy of this material to a friend or another person without necessarily borrowing.

Nowadays patrons of a library with the help of the information age do not need to register with a library. They can as well download current books or information that they need at any time at any quantity even if the traditional library is close. Due of the soft nature of books, journals, magazines or the information available over the internet, library users do not need any big area of space to keep these downloaded books. All they need is a sizeable amount of data space of hard disk drive space.

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### 1.3 Objectives

This is the best time to be alive as far as the information age is concerned. Technology (Both software and hardware) has changed and increased the way we consume data and information it has also changed the way library is being used for. The aim of this research is to explore the new, old and future technology that has reduced the patronage of the paper based traditional library and also to explore how online publishing or digital publishing has changed the way the traditional paper based library now operates.

### 1.4 Scope

The study is limited towards paper based traditional libraries the paper goes beyond the ordinary publishing and encompass all digital publications including videos, 3D animations, audios, digital files software, online publishers websites

### 1.5 Limitations

The challenges I will encounter during the research are:

1. Lack of access to a complete traditional library.
2. Difficulty in accessing other digital resources and information due to the location of the research (Africa).
3. Access to fast and high internet exposure.

## 2. Literature Review

### 2.1 Introduction

In the literature review, all the experiments conducted by information scientist were mostly based on access to e-publishing. Some literature looked at Access to the Electronic publishing in African Countries: Some Reflections, a guide to latex and electronic publishing, Electronic Publishing Guide to Best Practices for Canadian Publishers, Electronic Publishing and Information Quality, Academic Journals and How the Electronic Medium Changes Them.

### 2.2 Critique of the existing literature relevant to the study

While some of the literature review studied looked at programming languages such as latex, http and other markup languages that go into the creation of documents, others also looked into how developing countries in Africa will be able to get access to the internet, computer and thus e-publishing resources.

### 3. Methodology

I will be using both qualitative and quantitative method to do this study. Again questionnaires will also be employed as far as this study is concerned

The methodology used to carry out the study will also include: basic first degree knowledge of publishing studies, online publishing materials, data from Cape Coast Technical University, and experience in the book industry (both publishing and librarianship).

### 3.1 How the Internet, www, intranet etc. Has affected traditional Librarianship

Information drawn from experience in the use of the www internet etc indicates that digital publication has really affected the use of the traditional paper library in diverse forms.

First, there are certain challenges patrons of traditional libraries faced that the internet has come in to solve. Some

structures of the library did not have lavatories in conditions. This made it difficult for members of a particular library to visit the gents or use the toilet whenever the need arises. As a result of this, they preferred to stay at a convenient location such as their homes and where they can have access to online resources or information and research purposes. Secondly, there is limited time for books borrowed to be returned. This made it difficult for patrons to borrow books which they have long term need. Some books in the reference library though may be very useful to a library user may not be allowed to be borrowed but diligent search will give access to the patron an online publication of such material. The same applies to book that have short borrowing time. Users found it very convenient to go in for soft copies of books which could be owned by them entirely. There are a number of sites that a user could consult in attempt to fish out a particular information resource. Some of these websites include; [www.4shared.com](http://www.4shared.com), [www.bookboon.com](http://www.bookboon.com), [www.pdfbook.co.ke](http://www.pdfbook.co.ke), [www.scribd.com](http://www.scribd.com), etc.

### 3.2 How computers, smart phones, laptops, scanners, earphones, projectors etc. Has affected traditional Librarianship

Computers on the other hand have become substrates or surfaces for digital publication. This has made it a very affordable substrate for communicating or disseminating e-publications to library patrons. Mobile phone which has been very prolific recently in developing countries on the other hand has also contributed immensely to how publisher disseminate their books. Also kindle a e-book reader which is a special gadget for reading of novels etc has also been very useful as a substrate by authors in selling their books and making them reach their intended readers.

## 4. Conclusion and Recommendations

### 4.1 Results

Per the study that was conducted it was found out that e-publishing has significant effect on traditional paper libraries and has reduced the library patronage by 55%. it is also evident that that though online publishing has effect on librarianship, not all book, journals, document, information resources can be found in the online or digitally(electronically). This means that the traditional library is still relevant in today's information age. This is because for THE Fear of piracy, copyright infringes and plagiarism, some authors do not want an electronic version of their intellectual property.

### 4.2 Recommendations

The research recommends that all paper based traditional libraries should make it a point to invest heavy into the digital age. It is one of the ways that they can actually make current information an integral part of library and information science.

Most patrons do complain of the quality and the date of publication of books in the library. I believe e-publishing makes available edited and updated version of books since information changes every three months, the internet will afford library users the opportunity of search for the latest books, documents, journals, available online or electronically.

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