NASW PRESS

SOCIAL WORK ABSTRACTS

GUIDELINES FOR DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS

Students should submit their dissertation abstract and the signed form for permission to publish in *Social Work Abstracts* to the social work program granting the degree. Abstracts will only be accepted from the social work program, not from individual students.

PURPOSE   To provide the reader with a brief digest of the purpose, design, and major findings of the study.

CONTENT   Present essential material letting the reader know what is in the dissertation without giving all the details.

Include the following information in the abstract:

- **Research question.** Clearly state the research question or hypothesis. There is no need to justify choice of the question.
- **Scope of the study.** Mention the time period covered by the research and the sample size. Note the nature of the sampling procedure without giving full details.
- **Instruments used.** Indicate that a schedule, rating, scale, or other device was used but do not describe the device in detail.
- **Findings.** Include major findings; detailed reporting of results is not feasible.
- **Agencies.** Names of agencies providing materials for the study are not needed. For example, instead of naming three family agencies providing materials, say that the study included material from three family agencies.

LENGTH   Abstracts must not exceed 300 words.

STYLE   Keep the abstract simple and clear; avoid jargon; and do not use footnotes. The editor of *Social Work Abstracts* will edit for style and clarity only.

FORMAT
- Submit the original typed copy.
- The abstract should be double-spaced on 8½ x 11 white paper.
- Include a heading in the format shown below:

    Lewis, L.E., System change activities of neighborhood centers and program orientations of boards and staff. Columbia Univ., PhD, June 1999.

    Rothstein, M.B., Depression in pregnancy as it relates to feminine identification conflict and perceived environmental support. Smith College, DSW, August 1995.

PROOFS   Authors will not receive proofs before publication of abstracts.