



### What about our kids during the pandemic?

**Letizia Sampaolo**

Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome, Italy

letizia.sampaolo@iss.it

*Dorota Bródka is a psychologist based in Norway that has become the subject of sudden media interest in Poland, her native country. Last March, during the lockdown due to the pandemic, she penned a children's fairy tale explaining the implications of COVID-19. The story revealed itself a success and went viral in a few days.*

*Written with tender sensitivity in a language easily understood by children, Dorota's essential message is light and playful while keeping its core meaning.*

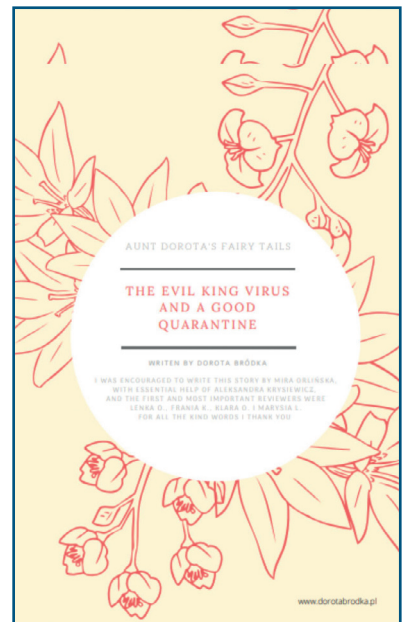
*The story, titled Bajka o złym Królu Wirusie i Dobrej Kwarantannie (A fairy tale about the evil King Virus and Good Quarantine), was released as a free audiobook and pdf, first published on Bródka's website, and later also translated into English. It was intended for just a limited audience at first. In an interview, Dorota said, "it all basically came about after a friend of mine posted a request to her friends involved in the field of psychology to write a story for kids." The story describes a number of kingdoms living happily until, one day, they are attacked by King Virus. "Everywhere the King rules," says Bródka, "loses colour, and even the habitants become sick and grey."*

*Soon the King and Queen of the Kingdom of the Scented Apple rally the rulers from the other kingdoms, together with quite many mysterious and wise figures, to discuss a plan, build a defensive wall of resistance and surround it with a quarantine to stop King Virus.*

*I will not tell you how the story ends, although I guess you already know it. Dorota perfectly explains how "right now we all need a little bit of hope. Just looking at how much everything has changed since I published this in the middle of March, you have to imagine how difficult it is for children to comprehend. They're having to be schooled online while also being kept apart from their friends – not to explain why is cruel, and I'd say to not give them hope is even crueller."*

*Hers is a gift of hope and joy, although times are difficult, specifically dedicated to our children.*

*Enjoy the full reading!*



*The Evil King Virus and a Good Quarantine*

### JOURNAL ISSUES

*Health Information and Libraries Journal: Contents of June 2020 (Vol. 37, Issue 2; Pages: i-iv, 95-169)*

#### Editorial

**Supporting the health library and information workforce**

McNamara S

### Review Articles

#### Factors influencing the success of knowledge management process in health care organisations: a literature review

Ayatollahi H, Zeraaktar K

### Original Articles

- **Findings from a training needs analysis survey to support health professionals across the research lifecycle**  
Purnell M
- **Measures of self-efficacy among doctors in conducting an online search for clinical decision making**  
Naeem SB, Bhatti R
- **Pre-requisites, barriers and advantages of clinical informationist participation in grand round: a qualitative study**  
Farashbandi EZ, Farashbandi FZ, Adibi P, Rahimi A
- **Performance evaluation of three semantic expansions to query PubMed.**  
Massonnaud C, Lelong R, Kerdelhué G, Lejeune E, Grosjean J, Griffon N, Darmoni SJ

### Regular Feature

- **Dissertations into Practice**  
**Use of bibliometric analysis of Greek hospital personnel publications**  
Massonnaud C, Lelong
- **International Perspectives and Initiatives**  
**The Covid-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic: reflections on the roles of librarians and information professionals.**  
Ali MY, Gatiti P

### Teaching and learning in Action

- **Regular Feature**  
**Learning how to teach unfamiliar subjects: developing training on writing for publication and presentation of research for health libraries**  
Barker E, Phillips V

### Obituary

Shane Godbolt, 9 December 1943 – 24 November 2019

### FROM THE WEB

- **Publishing in English. Is it a challenge?**  
Jef Akst is a science writer. As managing editor, she edits The Scientist's [Features](#) and writes articles across the publication. An [interesting one](#) published last March 10 on the Scientist's blog describes the challenges and issues often beyond the language barriers that international authors face when submitting manuscripts in English. It also portrays some editors, journalists, and professors' opinions about the topic. It reports, "Authors sometimes struggle with online submission systems, and lack of familiarity with the norms of the journal's process can also impede the path to publication." It also points out that language issues are not

exclusive to non-native English speakers; cultural differences in how researchers present their work can be a further challenge. Finally, although researchers can identify high-quality editing services, they may not be able to afford them. Sometimes “a journal editor encourages an author to seek language-editing services, and recommends a service that the journal has a partnership at a discounted rate, or points authors to a list of reputable language editing services on the journal’s website.” The ones interviewed call this “the language polishing industry,” often “riddled with high-volume, low-quality services”.

To end up successfully with a publication, is it just a matter of knowing the system? Get the [full article!](#)

### HEARD FROM THE WORLD

Susanna Holstein, known as Granny Sue, is a member of the National Storytelling Network, the West Virginia Storytelling Guild, the Kentucky Storytelling Association, VASA, and the Storytellers of Central Ohio. Her story is worthwhile reading. It reinforces the belief that all people, given the right tools and a little boost along the way ahead, can succeed. And it may lighten up our days when our librarian spirit may lose inspiration.

#### An Ornament Memory

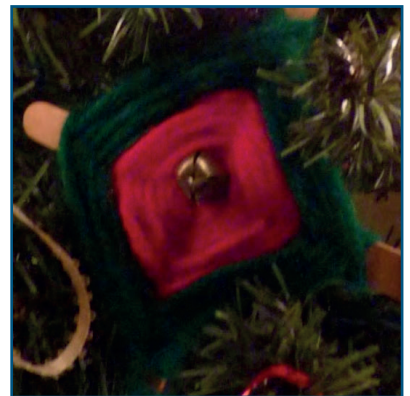
“About 30 years ago I was librarian in a small, struggling West Virginia town. An Adult Basic Education class met at the town's community centre, but I could not get the class to visit the library although I often went to their class to talk about the books and services. I even told them my own story of dropping out of high school as a senior to get married and have a baby, about having four sons by the time I was 22, moving to West Virginia at 23 and trying to subsistence farm, then getting divorced and remarried at 34, having another son, starting college at 36 and finishing when I was 40. I told them about how I visited the library often in those early years, and how much I learned from books. The teacher told me they just didn't think the library was a place for them.

Finally, one day I told the teacher I would show the film Catfish Man of the Woods if she would bring the class to the library to watch it. The video was about an old time herb doctor in Glenwood, WV, who did a lot of foraging for wild plants, and the people in the class knew a lot about that, as many of them hunted ginseng and wild mushrooms among other things.

So, they came to watch the movie, and I took them for a tour of our little library, showing them the plant identification books, car repair manuals, craft books, and so on. They all got library cards. After that day, the class came at least once a month, for books, to watch a movie or come to a library program. Some of them came after school and brought their children to get cards. They told me privately that they always thought the library was “for rich, educated people, not people like them”.

The following year I was promoted to a new position, and had to leave my first little library. On their last visit, each member of the class brought me an ornament they had made. This God's Eye is one of them. Some years later when I was working at another library, one of the class members came in to show me her practical nursing degree, and told me her son would soon be starting college. She said, “The library is what got me started.” I always believed in the people in that class--talented, hardworking, creative--and I am sure many of them, like the lady who eventually became a registered nurse, that they succeeded in whatever they set out to do.”

#### Granny Sue's - God's Eye



*Granny Sue's - God's Eye*

Please feel free to contact me ([letizia.sampaolo@iss.it](mailto:letizia.sampaolo@iss.it)) if you have any further suggestion about events you would like to promote.