

Random Sampling Statement: Blue Ridge Regional Library Religion Section

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LIBS 658: Knowledge Resources-Collections

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Random Sampling Question: Does the book talk about a higher power other than the God of Christianity/Jesus?

Method of Sampling:

Books of all religions and denominations are housed together in the 200 section at Blue Ridge Regional Library. I estimated there were 550 books in the section. I divided 550 by 40 and got 13.75 which I rounded up to 14. I began in the middle of the section and started pulling every 14th book to check the contents. I answered yes or no to my question about each book and tallied them when I finished. At the end of my sampling, 19 of my books were about a higher being that was not the God of Christianity, and 24 books were not about a higher being. I divided 19 by 40 and got 47.5. I used my rule of math and rounded up. My findings were that 48% of the books in the section were about religions that had a higher power that is not the God of Christianity/Jesus.

Thoughts on the Outcome:

I live in the Bible Belt where churches that preach the Holy Bible are almost on every corner. I was not expecting the percentage of books on other religions to be so high. I think that was a pretty even number. However, there are many other religions other than Christianity, so the percentage of each religion could be much higher. My findings mean that all the other religions put together don't add up to the percentage of Christian only books. Therefore, there could definitely be more books on religions that are not only based on the God of Christianity.