

CITING AND REFERENCING SECONDARY SOURCES

"The author of the book I read mentions another author. I want to refer to this other author. How do I reference this"?

This is called **secondary referencing**. Typically, you will be reading a chapter in a book and the author will mention an interesting piece of research done by someone else, or provide a useful fact for your assignment, then give a citation, naming another writer or writers.

You have two choices in this situation. You can find and read the source mentioned yourself and check out the accuracy of the summary given by the author you read – this is the recommended option - and then you can refer directly to this author, as you have read the source yourself.

However, if you find it difficult to find or gain access to the primary source, **and** where you are confident the secondary source author is reliable and accurate in the way he or she has paraphrased or quoted the original author **and** when you do not need to go into any great depth of analysis on what that primary author has written, you can use these secondary sources.

For example, in the book 'Licensed to Work' by Barrie Sherman and Phil Judkins (1995), there is a reference to another writer, Ivan Illich, who refers to 'shadow work': tasks in society that were once the responsibility of extended families and close communities.

If Sherman and Judkins book was used as a secondary source, your **citation** must make this clear. So you could write:

"Ivan Illich (1981), as summarised by Sherman and Judkins (1995 p.121) has suggested that 'shadow work'..

or

"Illich (1981) has suggested that 'shadow work': tasks in society were once the responsibility of extended families and close communities (in Sherman and Judkins, 1995 p.121).

or

"Sherman and Judkins in their book (1995 p.121) refer to the work of Ivan Illich (1981), who coined the term 'shadow work' to suggest that"

The full reference must give details of the source **you looked at**, e.g.

Sherman, B. and Judkins, P. (1995). *Licensed to Work*. London: Cassell.

If anyone wanted to read Ivan Illich's book, they could then look at 'Licensed to Work' and find the full reference details there. It is not strictly necessary to give the year of Illich's book. However, it can be useful to the reader to give this detail, as there may be more than one Illich book listed in the primary source.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Read 'References and Bibliographies', Effective Learning Service booklet.