# **INPLASY**

# **Relational Work: A Systematic Literature Review**

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# ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

**Support** - Not applicable.

**Review Stage at time of this submission -** Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria.

Conflicts of interest - None declared.

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Amendments - This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 08 November 2023 and was last updated on 08 November 2023.

#### INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective Research Question: what are the main concepts and the main dimensions used in the literature related to Relational Work and what are the gaps in theoretical and empirical studies that bring possibilities to propose other comprehensions about this approach beyond the Economic Sociology?

The scope review aims to (1) provide an extensive overview bibliometric of Relational Work; (2) pointing out the thematic trends, concepts, dimensions, research topics, theories, methods presented in the studies, countries, and authors; (3) contribute to development of discussions about the concepts and the dimensions of Relational Work in different authors background and research areas.

Rationale The Relational work is not a recent perspective from Economic Sociology. Some researchers like Zelizer (2000), have appointed since 2000, that people are connected beyond an

economic interest's perspective. Moreover, people are negotiated their intimacy in a complex relational between symbolic and economic intersections. Recently, author like Bandelj (2020), provided the differences from embeddedness in economic sociology and Relational Work. In addition, Bandelj (2020), also showed the Relational work concepts, and provided a future research agenda, as determinants and consequences of relational work. The first point focused on explanations for different influences about social statuses, especially for recent boom world immigration, and the second focused in consequences of Relational Work. This SLR address the research agenda proposed by Bandeli (2020) and expands the Relational work knowledge and innovates clarify the concept and its dimensions on different research areas.

Condition being studied A scoping review is also about how literature identifies relevant topics about Relational Work, including the concepts, constructs, and dimensions of analysis about the Relational Work. For that, we start from a

Bibliometric method research, then we provided a SLR method using Qualitative and Quantitative analysis.

#### **METHODS**

Search strategy Search on October 15, 2023. We conducted an extensive literature retrieval. Three bibliographic databases, including ISI Web of Science (WoS), EBSCO, and SCOPUS were systematically searched to retrieve the potential literature. The search terms were developed based on one concept (term): (1) Relational Work.

The research in the SCOPUS Database is as follows: TITLE-ABS-KEY ( "relational work" ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( DOCTYPE , "ar" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( DOCTYPE , "re" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( LANGUAGE , "english" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( EXACTKEYWORD , "relational work" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( EXACTKEYWORD , "economic sociology" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( EXACTKEYWORD "embeddedness" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( EXACTKEYWORD , "emotional labour" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( EXACTKEYWORD , "emotion" ) OR LIMIT-TO (EXACTKEYWORD, "morality")) In the WoS Database we used the Core Collection (All fields), with the following search: ALL ("relational work") AND (REFINE (DOCUMENT TYPES "ar") OR (REFINE (DOCUMENT TYPES "re") AND (REFINE (LANGUAGE "English") At EBSCO, we use (All Results) in MLA Directory of Periodicals AND MLA International Bibliography Data Bases with the following the steps: search term ("relational work") AND (Expanders - Apply equivalent subjects) AND (Restrict by Language: english) AND (Search modes - Boolean/Phrase).

Participant or population Not applicable.

Intervention Not applicable.

Comparator Not applicable.

Study designs to be included A qualitative content analysis will be performed to obtain data and evidence from the literature included. Specifically, we will summarize the number of studies that address the Relational work, the main problems encountered, the main actors involved, the geographical location where each study is carried out, the purpose, the sources of information, the form of investigation, the ways of obtaining and processing data, and the predominant themes. As a complement, the VOSviewer software version 1.6.17 will be used for bibliometric analysis. Use the of PRISMA\_2020\_expanded\_checklist. and Flow.

Eligibility criteria The studies will be included if they are: (1) Primary studies relevant to our research topic (if review articles such as scoping review articles are potentially relevant, the mentioned and relevant primary articles should be selected and included); (2) Literature review; (3) Had been published in journals ranked ABS 4 or 3, according the Academic Journal Guide 2021 – Ranking (UK – ABS Latest list); (4) Related with Relational Work. The studies will be excluded if they are: (1) Letters, meeting abstracts, media reports, content feeds, conference paper; and (2) Articles that do not focus on the themes of Relational Work.

**Information sources** Electronic databases: SCOPUS, ISI Web of Science (WoS) and EBSCO.

Main outcome(s) None reported.

Additional outcome(s) None reported.

**Data management** Use of Figures extracted from VOSviewer software analyses. The analyses provide a graphical view of interconnection of the key terms in the documents, co-authorship network of countries contributions and key terms, three-field-plot on sources, authors, and keywords, historiograph, top-authors. Therefore, they may be based on bibliographic data: co-authorship: lists the items according to the number of documents co-authored. The items can be authors. organizations, or countries. Co-occurrence: lists keywords according to the number of times they occur together in a document. Citation: lists the items according to the number of times they cite each other. The items can be documents, sources, authors, organizations, or countries. Bibliographic Coupling: lists the items according to the number of references they share. The items can be documents, sources, authors, organizations, or countries. Co-citation: lists the items according to the number of times the citation occurs together. The items can be references cited, sources cited or authors cited. b) Based on text data: Cooccurrence based on text data: lists items according to the number of times they occur in a document together. The items can be titles, abstracts, titles and abstracts. The analyses provide a graphical view of the interconnection of the key terms in the documents, according to the strength of the link between them.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis Use Analysis of Qualitative articles (Letts et al. (2007), for Quantitative articles (Law et al. (1998) and the AMSTAR-2 grid for SLR articles.

**Strategy of data synthesis** Start searching using the followed steps of strategy of data synthesis in the electronic databases: SCOPUS, ISI Web of Science (WoS), EBSCO.

Following the removal of duplicate literature using RStudio, a four-step screening phase will be completed by two members: (1) title screening based on exclusion criteria; (2) abstract screening; (3) keywords screening; (4) full-text screening based on eligibility criteria. The co-authors will discuss discrepancies and modify the eligibility criteria and drafting document using the Excel database. Screening will be initiated when 75% agreement is obtained. Reasons for any exclusion after review of full text will be recorded. In the next phase, the researchers will analyze the full articles according to a content analysis matrix defined by the research team. Co-authors resolve disagreements through discussion throughout the selection process. If necessary, a third co-author makes the final decision if the two paired coauthors are unable to resolve the disagreement. The process is iterative to ensure that all relevant studies are included. A pilot test will be implemented to ensure consistency among coauthors. The search results and the study selection process will be reported in the final systematic review and presented in the PRISMA (PRISMA-ScR) flow diagram. After the entire process, all data is recorded and exported in Excel format.

**Subgroup analysis** The analyses provide a graphical view of the interconnection of the key terms in the documents, according to the strength of the link between them.

**Sensitivity analysis** Use of PRISMA\_2020\_expanded\_checklist and PRISMA flow diagram. Use of VOSviewer version 1.6.17.

Language restriction None.

Country(ies) involved Brazil and Portugal.

**Keywords** "Relational Work; Economic Sociology; Embeddedness; Emotional labor; Emotion".

## Contributions of each author

Author 1 - Fábio Aurelio De Mario - Co-first author of the protocol who drafted the protocol and led and provided feedback for the screenings and development of the research question, search and research strategy, eligibility criteria, protocol outline, data extraction and presentation plans, and formal screening of the research results against the eligibility criteria.

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Author 2 - Isabel Cristina Panziera Marques - Cofirst author of the protocol who led the refinement and modification of the search strategy, eligibility criteria, conducted and pilot test and formal screening of the search results against the eligibility criteria.

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Author 3 - Maria Luisa Mendes Teixeira - Co-first author of the protocol who designed the protocol and provided feedback for screening and developing the research question, search strategy, eligibility criteria, and plans for data extraction and presentation.

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