

I heard it through the grapevine

What do we know about how
lawyers research?

ACC v Stoddart [2011] HCA 47

As authors and editors, they were likely to be keeping an eye on each other's work and on any decision likely to affect their work. As barristers they belonged to a tightly knit class centralised in a small part of London. It was in many ways a class ideally suited for the protection of liberty and the rule of law. It was a moody murmurous class. Its members were prone to gossip and asperity amongst themselves, conscious of the infirmities of each other and of the judiciary, in constant touch at breakfast, dinner, lunch and tea, or while moving to and from court, and eager to pass on any errors in law books or developments which might affect their accuracy. [135]

Robert Berring

- ‘Collapse of the Structure of the Legal Research Universe: The Imperative of Digital Information’ (1994) 69 *Washington Law Review* 9
- ‘Legal Research and the World of Thinkable Thoughts’ 2 *J App Prac & Process* 305 (2000)
- ‘Legal Information and the Search for Cognitive Authority’ 88 *Cal L Rev* 1673 (2000)

Librarian interviews

a number of staff here are embedded ...they really are deep within the teams, so they get a [different] level of requests, than in the past, when we were quite removed from the lawyers, sitting in the library. I think the expectations of you have changed, because you sit in on their practice group meetings, you participate in their CLEs...

Theoretical Approaches

- Small worlds
- Sense making
- Law as a socio-technical practice

How do lawyers research?

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The future

- Social media as an exemplar
- Google-isation?
 - Browsing or searching?
- Antidisintermediation