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Not Every Predatory Journal is Really Predatory Journal

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The academic world, I mean mainly publication activity, is influenced by many circumstances. Academicians are evaluated by the numbers of papers published in the journals through last year or more (it depends on country). In academic publishing, a paper is an academic work that is usually published in an academic journal. It contains original research results or reviews existing results. Such a paper, also called an article, will only be considered valid if it undergoes a process of peer review by one or more referees (who are academics in the same field) who check that the content of the paper is suitable for publication in the journal. A paper may undergo a series of reviews, revisions, and re-submissions before finally being accepted or rejected for publication. This process typically takes several months. Next, there is often a delay of many months (or in some subjects, over a year) before an accepted manuscript appears. This is particularly true for the most popular and high evaluated journals where the number of accepted articles often outnumbers the space for printing. Some journals, particularly newer ones, are now published in electronic form only. Paper journals are now generally made available in electronic form as well, both to individual subscribers, and to libraries (Ellison 2011).

From the publications are derived financial compensations and also other career. This situation is well known for every person and organization, which is connected with the academic world and some of them are trying to little bit misuse this situation and earn some many on academicians. In the academic world is existing one group of journals and publishing houses. The journals and publishing houses promise fast review process and rapid publishing for the adequate processing fee. These journals are called predatory journals. Many authors were trying to define this concept and bring new kinds of information about this topic (e.g. Beall 2015; Berger & Cirasella 2015). Jeffrey Beall is considered for the first, who mentioned this problem and it is possible to find on his web-site list of predatory journals, which is actualized every moment. To sum up, predatory journals are primarily fee-collecting operations—they exist for that purpose and only incidentally publish articles, generally without rigorous peer review, despite claims to the contrary. Other characteristics are: high manuscript acceptance rates or acceptance guarantees; the publisher sends you an un-solicited invitation to submit an article for publication; minimal (or non-existent) peer review process; little attention paid to digital preservation; not necessarily indexed in electronic databases; journals may be short lived; no archiving policy. As I wrote above, it is possible to find many characteristics of predatory journals.

However, to mark journal as predatory according the above mentioned criteria is little bit superficial. The attentive researcher could notice that this “war” against many journals could lead toward decreasing of research and the change of kinds of information could be more problematic. I do not want to write about persons, who are propagators of predatory journals and who fight very aggressive. I would like to write more about process and about some problematic points. The marking of journal as predatory in nearly all cases is based on the processing fee. But what about journals, whose asking money for the downloading of published article? Is it not predatory behavior? Only for the comparison, some open-access journal asked 300 € for the publishing the manuscript and any other journal asked 30 € from reader for the downloading the published article. If 50 readers download this article the profit will be 1500 € for the publishing house. As Berger & Cirasella (2015) wrote, charging a fee is not

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itself a marker of a predatory publisher: many reputable open-access journals use processing fees to cover costs, especially in fields where research is often funded by grants (many subscription-based journals also charge authors fees, sometimes per page or illustration). The processing fee have got a justification, because in the majority of cases authors of publication does not pay from own financial sources, but from different funds or grants respectively faculty or university provided money for the processing fee. And if journal have not got string financial scaffolding from own university or from other source it is very problematic to secure the function of journal. However, it is possible to find many journals, which are included in the some world known databases (Web of Science, SCOPUS) and journals are belonging into some well-known publishing house and they have got processing publishing fees. Prestige journals typically charge several thousand dollars. Oxford University Press, with over 300 journals, has fees ranging from £1000-£2500, with discounts of 50 % to 100 % to authors from developing countries. Wiley Blackwell has 700 journals available, and they charge a flat \$US3000 open access fee. Springer, with over 2600 journals, charges US\$3000 or EUR 2200 (excluding VAT) (see web pages of journals or publishing houses).

Other fact, which is connecting with the growing of theories regarding to predatory journals, it is a growth in academic publishing in developing countries as they become more advanced in science and technology. Although the large majority of scientific output and academic documents are produced in developed countries, the rate of growth in these countries has stabilized and is much smaller than the growth rate in some of the developing countries. The fastest scientific output growth rate over the last two decades has been in the Middle East and Asia with Iran leading with an 11-fold increase followed by the Republic of Korea, Turkey, Cyprus, China, and Oman (Mortazavi & Hashemi 2011). And other interesting notice, there is a long history of subscription and print journals supplementing their subscription income by charging other kinds of publication fee (Curb & Abramson 2012), such as submission charges, as well as additional author-side fees including page and colour charges. King & Alvarado-Albertorio (2012) report on a study that showed that 50% of articles in 1977 had some form of author-side payment, although the practice declined somewhat in subsequent years as the financial costs of publication were shifted onto higher subscription fees.

The problem is in different place, many journals are added on the predatory list on the basis of information from authors, whose have got a suspicion about unfair behavior of journal. And many organizations add this journal on the list and send the e-mail to all employees of university, that these journals are not good, they are predatory and employees should not publish in these journals. And when some employee publish there, it is marked as "bad author" without any finding out about publishing process from "bad author". The authors of publications in "predatory journals" should be heard about the process of communication with editor, about reviewing process and about final process with the manuscript. So, the adding of journals in the any list of "predatory journals" and to pretend, that it is right way, it is not good and it can lead decreasing of science and to improving of fear from publication activity, because every journal has got the potential to be a bad journal.

On the basis of previous information, it seems, that the way to mark nearly any new journal as predatory is not well. It looks in some moments like witch hunt, where every author has got chance to be a witch. I think, every of us has got own brain and knows, where to publish results of research and every author has got a responsibility for own career and development of own personality. The judging of authors for their works is not correct way, it can lead to inactivity in the publication process. It is possible to find some information from the authors, whose the concept "predatory journals" deny and have got more reasonable solutions (e.g. Anderson 2015) So, to hunt the witches is not always the correct solution. The better way is to provide service for starting authors, how to write a scientific manuscript and how to send it into journal and all about the publication process.

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