

## The Attitudes of Librarians in Hamadan Public Libraries Regarding the Professional Ethics

**Ali Reza Esfandyari Moghadam**

Assistant Professor, Department of Information Science and Knowledge Studies, Islamic Azad University, Hamadan Branch  
ali.isfandyari@iauh.ac.ir

**Ghasem Goudarzi** (Corresponding author)

MA Student of Information Science and Knowledge Studies, Islamic Azad University  
Librarian of Shahid Beheshti Library, Malayer, Hamadan  
ghasemgoudarzi@ymail.com

Received: 4<sup>th</sup> November 2012; Accepted: 28<sup>th</sup> May 2013

### Abstract

**Purpose:** The aim of this study is to examine the level of familiarity with professional ethics demonstrated by librarians in Hamadan public libraries, and to determine the factors affecting these librarians' attitudes towards professional ethics and their prioritization of professional ethics components.

**Methodology:** This is an applied research study which is conducted using the survey method. The research community consists of the librarians of public libraries of Hamadan province, numbering 97 people. The data has been collected through a researcher- designed questionnaire. To analyze the data, descriptive and inferential statistical methods have been applied.

**Findings:** Results reveal that the librarians of Hamadan public libraries are highly familiar with professional ethics. The professional ethics components are prioritized as responsibility towards: society, users, their profession, colleagues, their organization, themselves and professionals from other fields. No differences were found in prioritization between the attitudes of librarians with a librarianship qualification and other librarians. There were also no considerable differences between the attitudes of librarians towards the importance of familiarity with professional ethics in terms of gender, but there were some differences between their attitudes regarding the level of education and job experiences of librarians.

**Originality/value:** This study can help the Iranian Public Libraries Foundation and the Iranian Library and Information Science Association to compile a comprehensive charter of a professional code of ethics.

**Keywords:** Librarians, Professional ethics, Library and Information Science, Public libraries.