Faculti Summary

https://staging.faculti.net/predatory-practices-and-scholarly-communication/

This video discusses predatory practices in academia, specifically focusing on predatory publishing and conferences. It outlines how these practices involve socio-political and economic behaviors that have become prevalent in academic settings. The issue was first brought to light by librarian Jeffrey Beall around 2009-2010, who highlighted the rise of predatory journals and created a list of such entities, which is no longer available due to legal threats.

The speaker underscores that the emphasis on publishing as a measure of academic success in a neoliberal, capitalist system drives many academics, particularly those new to the field, to submit to predatory journals. This video phenomenon is viewed as a significant threat to the integrity of scholarship, as predatory publishers exploit the academic knowledge system.

The speaker also discusses the role of awareness and education in combating predatory practices, suggesting that academics should be trained to recognize predatory journals and understand the consequences of publishing there. Additionally, it highlights the need for institutional support through workshops and mentorship for novice scholars.

This video examines the socio-economic factors influencing knowledge production, emphasizing that the current academic publishing system is largely benefiting publishers rather than fostering equitable access to knowledge. It advocates for changes in the way academic contributions are evaluated, calling for a more democratic and accessible approach to disseminating knowledge, which includes publishing in various languages and utilizing social media platforms to reach broader audiences.

Moreover, the discussion reveals the complexities of predatory publishing, calling for a nuanced understanding that distinguishes between genuinely predatory journals and those lacking robust editorial practices. The speaker suggests that initiatives focusing on raising awareness and offering resources could help mitigate the impacts of predatory practices in academia.