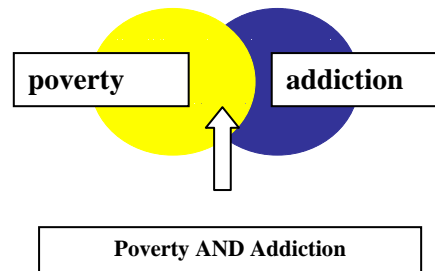


## Boolean Searching

Boolean searching is a means of refining your search by specifying the relationships between search terms. The primary Boolean operators are AND, OR, NOT. These operators work in the library's online catalog, in most of the Sawyer Library's subscription databases, and in Web directories and search engines.

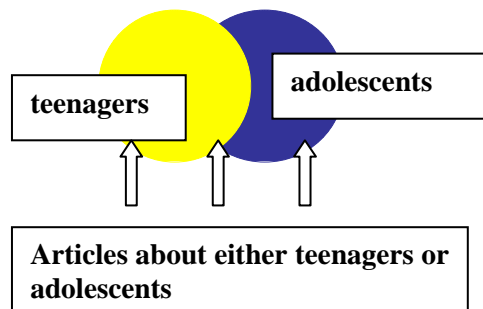
### **“AND” operator narrows the search**

“AND” limits your search by requiring all terms to be in each search result. Searching for the relationship between “poverty” AND “addiction” retrieves results with both terms present.



### **“OR” operator expands the search**

“OR” requires results that contain either or both terms. Searching for “teenagers” OR “adolescents” retrieves either or both.



### **“NOT” operator narrows the search**

“NOT” precedes keywords that must not appear in search results. Searching “addiction” NOT “alcohol” eliminates alcohol from the results.

