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Future Reference:

Zettelkasten & zotero

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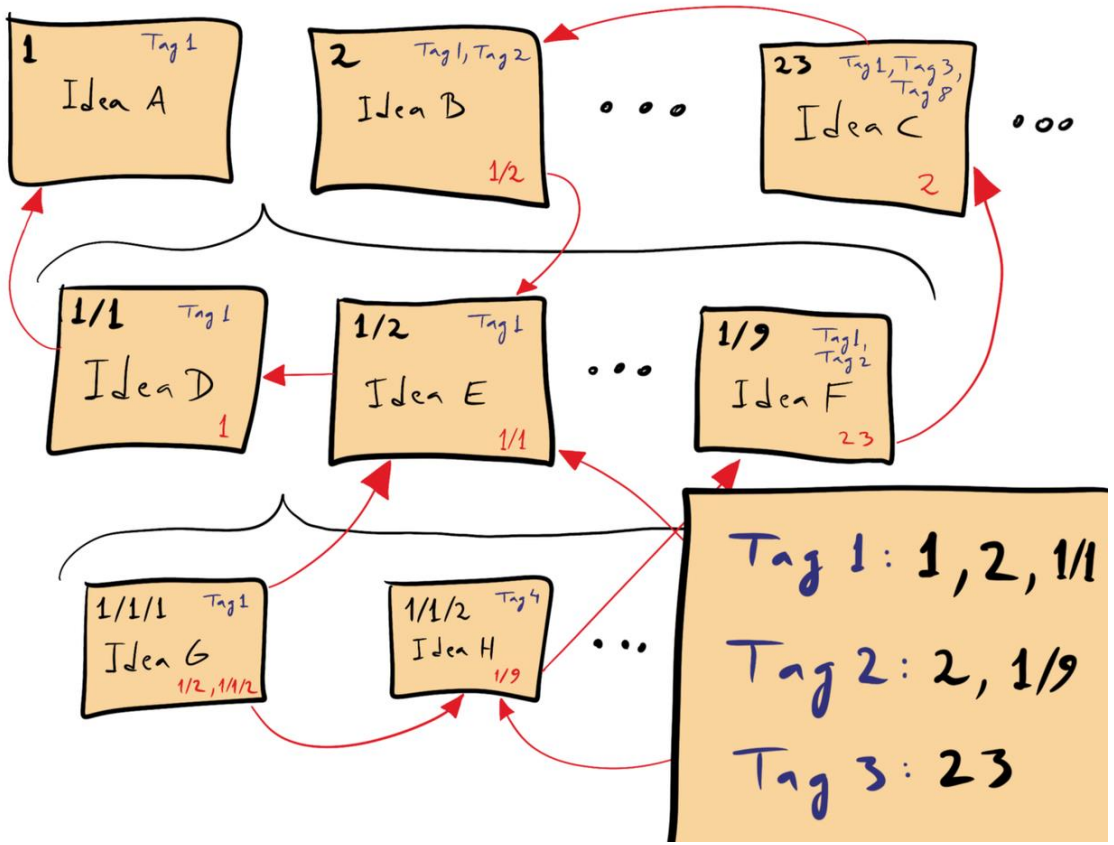
Kieran Layton
Electronic Research Services Librarian

What is Zettelkasten?

A German word meaning “slip box” or “card index” a zettelkasten is a note-taking and knowledge management system.

Photo of “Zettelkasten” from “Niklas Luhmann-Archiv” is licensed under CC-BY-NC-SA 4.0.

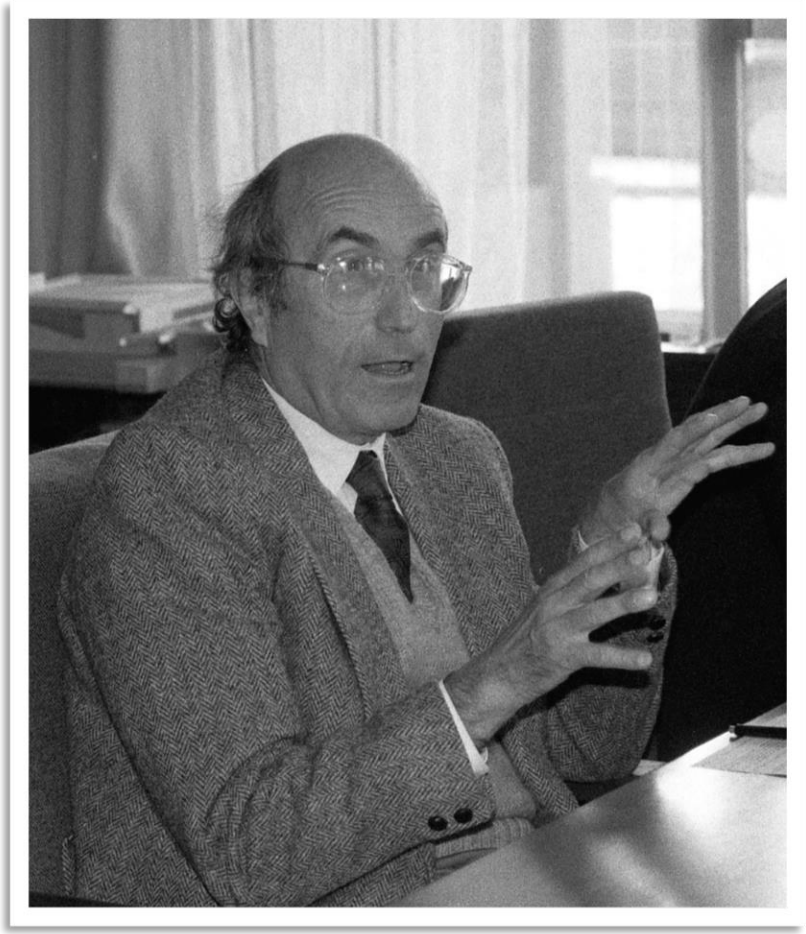
How does Zettelkasten work?



1. Notes are taken,
2. then categorized, and
3. linked using tags or keywords

Explanation of the Zettelkasten knowledge management system CC BY-SA 4.0
David B. Clear, Zettelkasten — How One German Scholar Was So Freakishly Productive, in: The Writing Cooperative, 31 December 2019.

Why Zettelkasten?

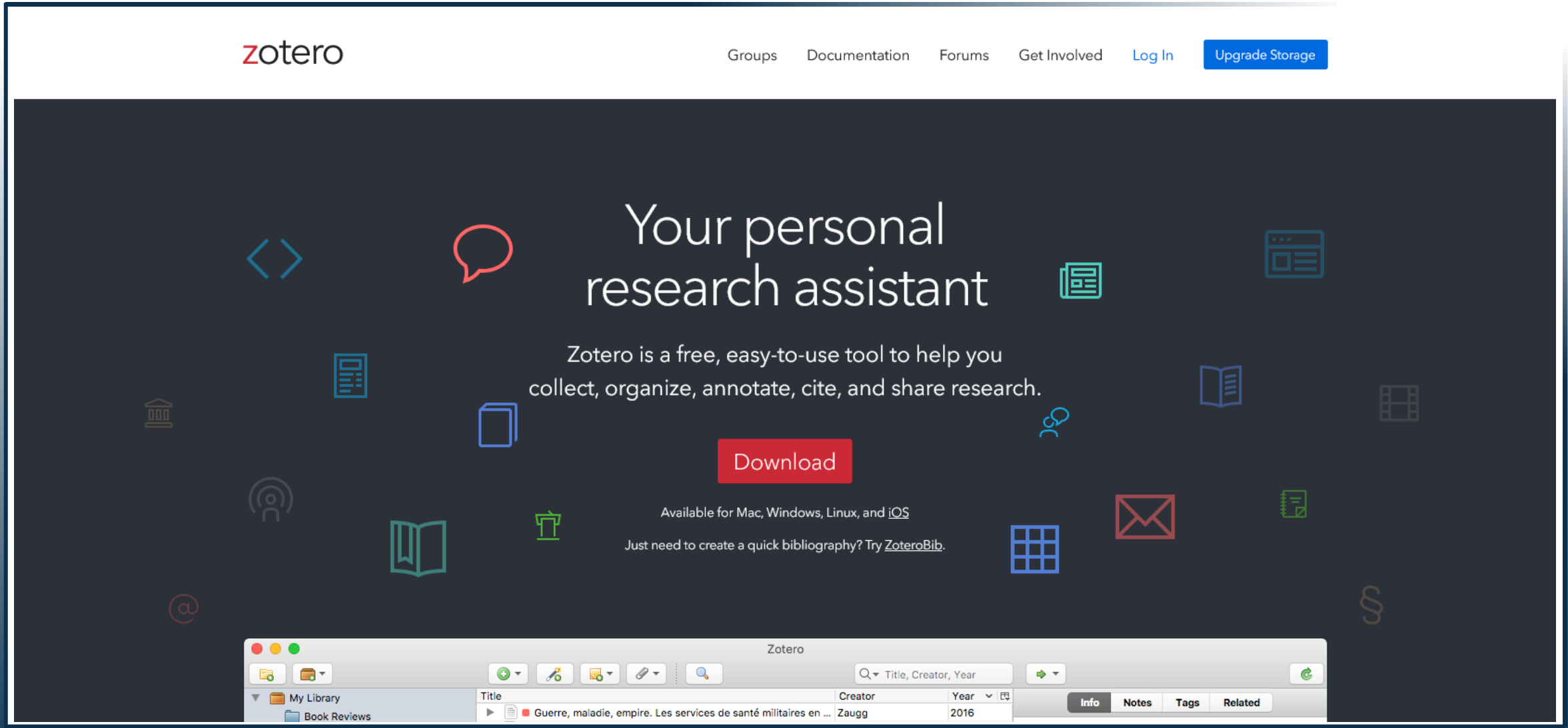


Niklas Luhmann - Universitätsarchiv St.Gallen CC BY-SA 4.0

"[Zettelkasten] can be recommended as partners of communication…It is impossible to think without writing; at least it is impossible in any sophisticated or networked fashion."

Communicating with Slip Boxes: An Empirical Account

zotero.org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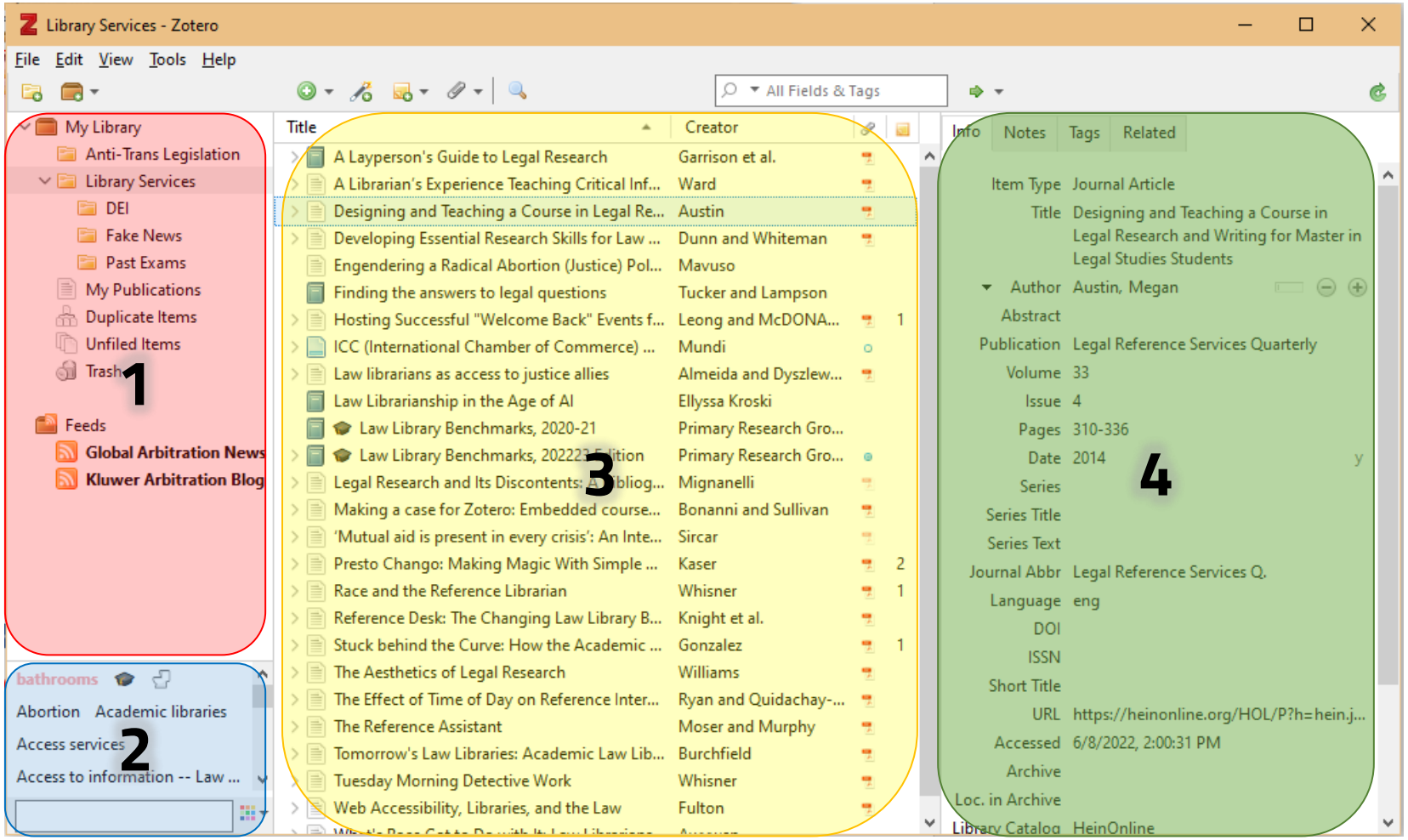

1. **Libraries, collections, and feeds**
2. **Tags**
3. **Items**
4. **Metadata**

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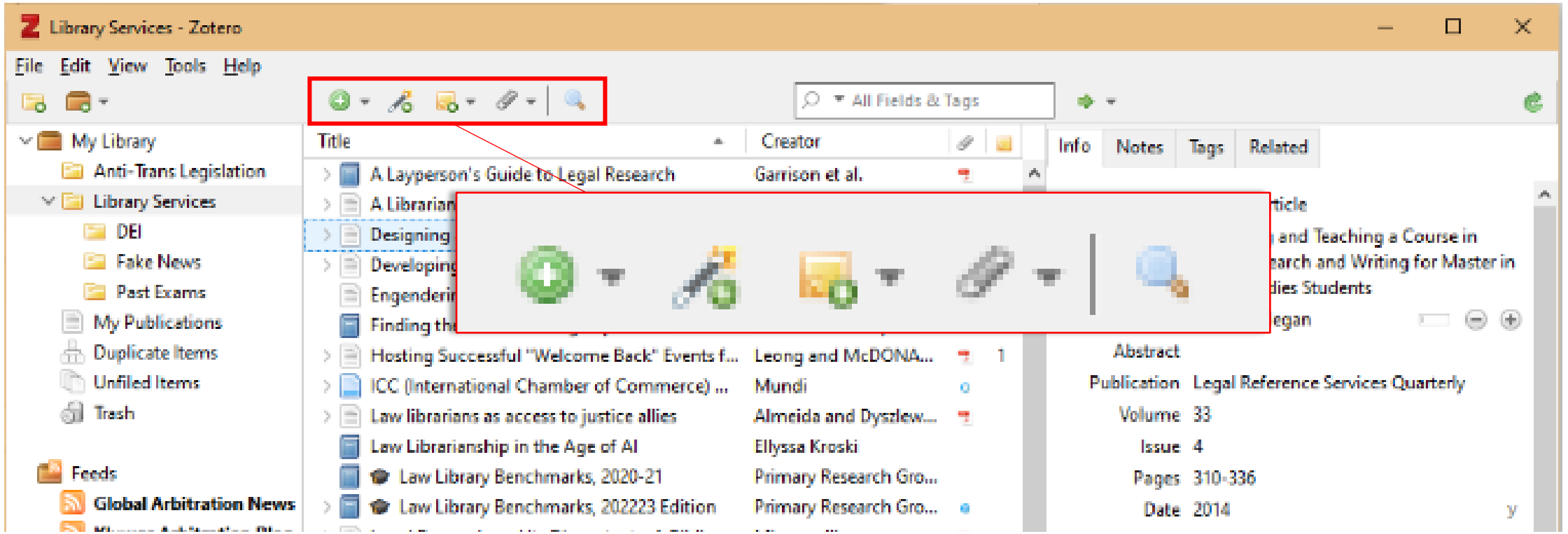
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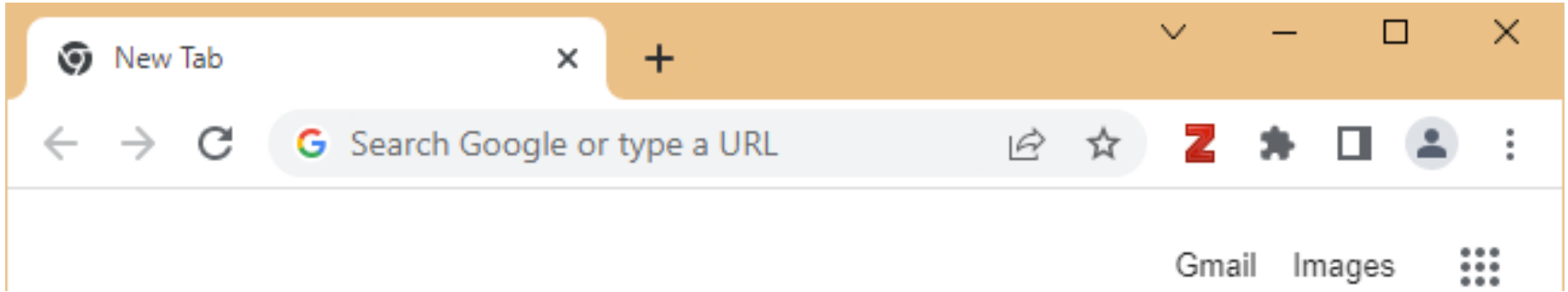

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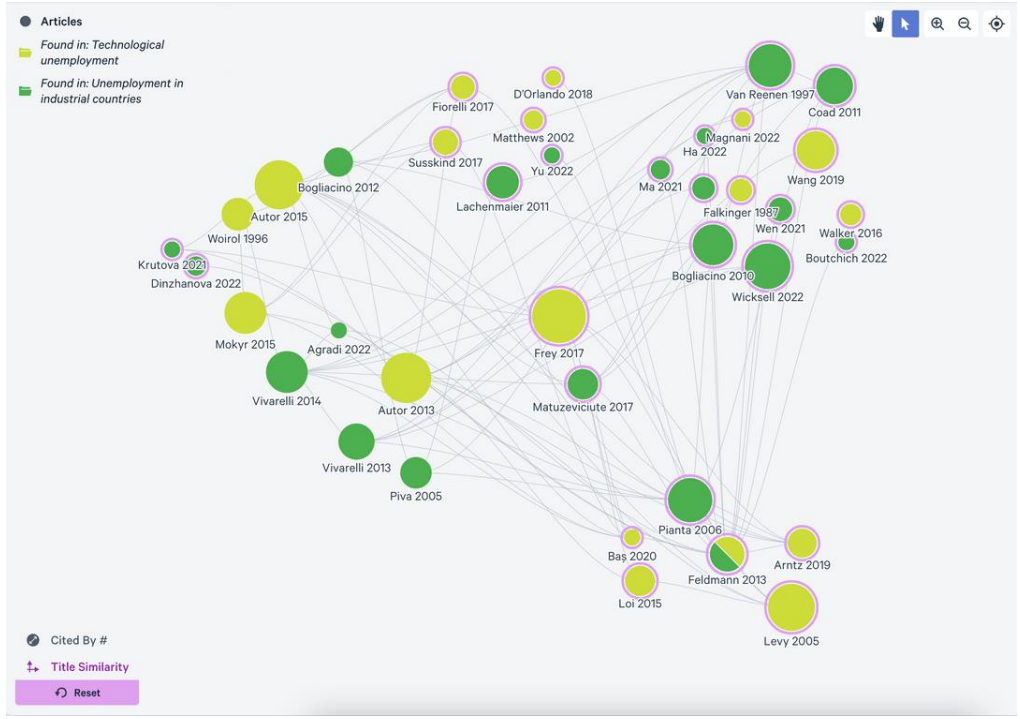
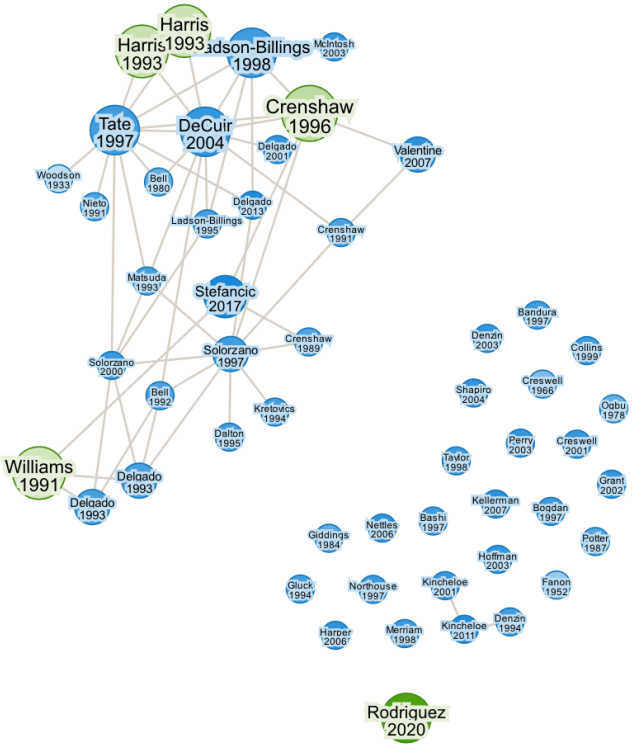
Litmaps



ResearchRabbit



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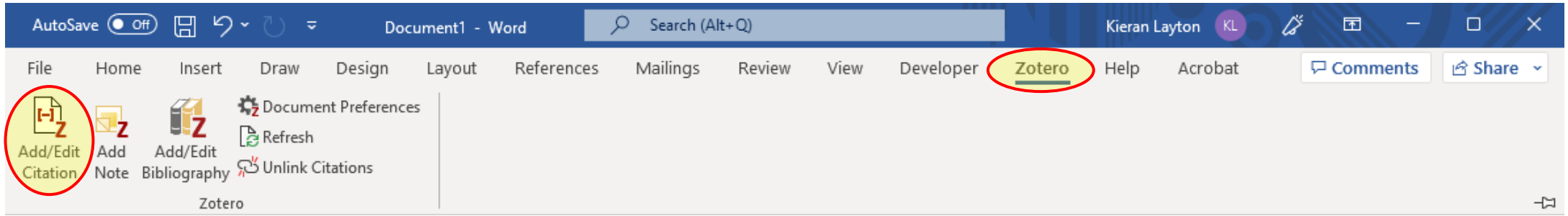

[1] Jennifer Levi & Daniel Redman, *The Cross-Dressing Case for Bathroom Equality*, 34 SEATTLE U. L. REV. 133 (2010).

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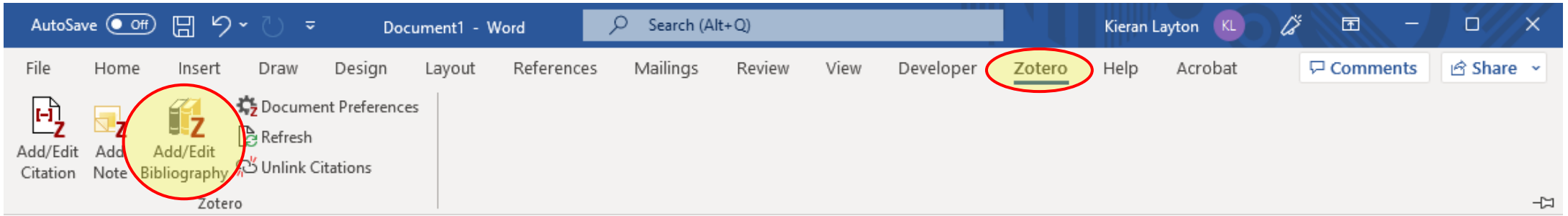

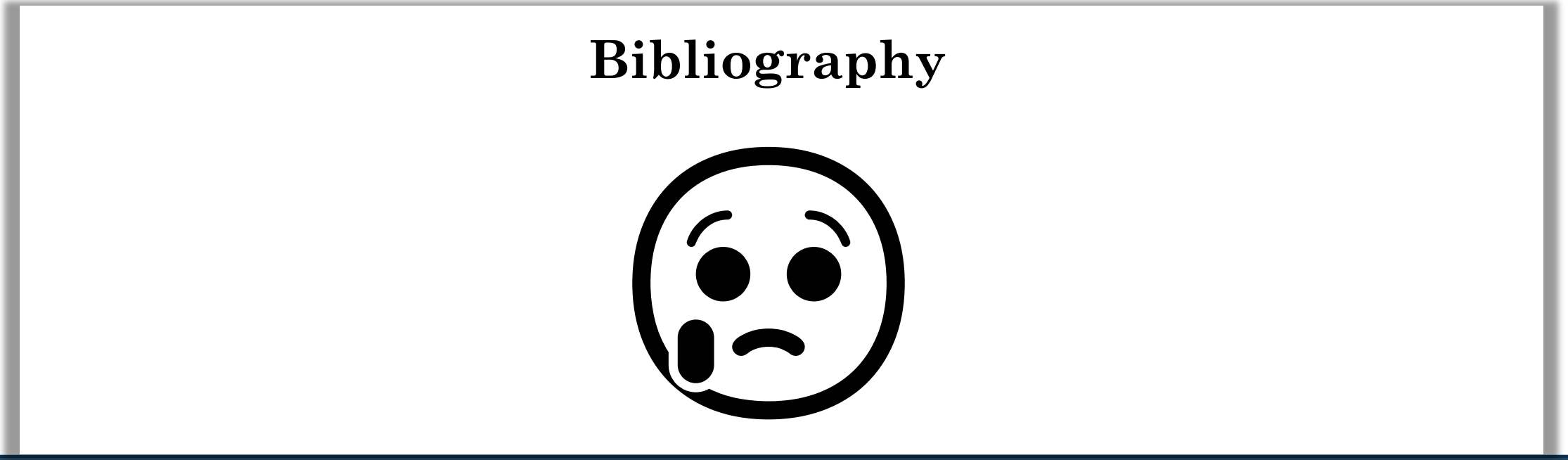

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- Primary Research Group Staff, LAW LIBRARY BENCHMARKS, 2022-23 EDITION (2022).
- Theresa Tarves, *All in Legal Education*, *in* LAW LIBRARIANSHIP IN THE AGE OF AI (2022).
- Camille Abdeljawad, *Perceived Authority, Real Consequences: Research-Informed Practices to Teaching Students about Authority & Misinformation*, 48 LOEX QUARTERLY (2022).
- Megan Austin, *Designing and Teaching a Course in Legal Research and Writing for Master in Legal Studies Students*, 33 LEGAL REFERENCE SERVICES Q. 310 (2014).
- Mimmo Bonanni & Christina Sullivan, *Making a case for Zotero: Embedded courses, collaboration, and resources sharing*, 83 COLLEGE & RESEARCH LIBRARIES NEWS 201 (2022).
- Catherine M. Dunn & Michael Whiteman, *Developing Essential Research Skills for Law Practice: The Legal Research Competency Program*, 41 LEGAL REFERENCE SERVICES QUARTERLY 67 (2022).
- Sam Williams, *The Aesthetics of Legal Research*, 41 LEGAL REFERENCE SERVICES QUARTERLY 3 (2022).

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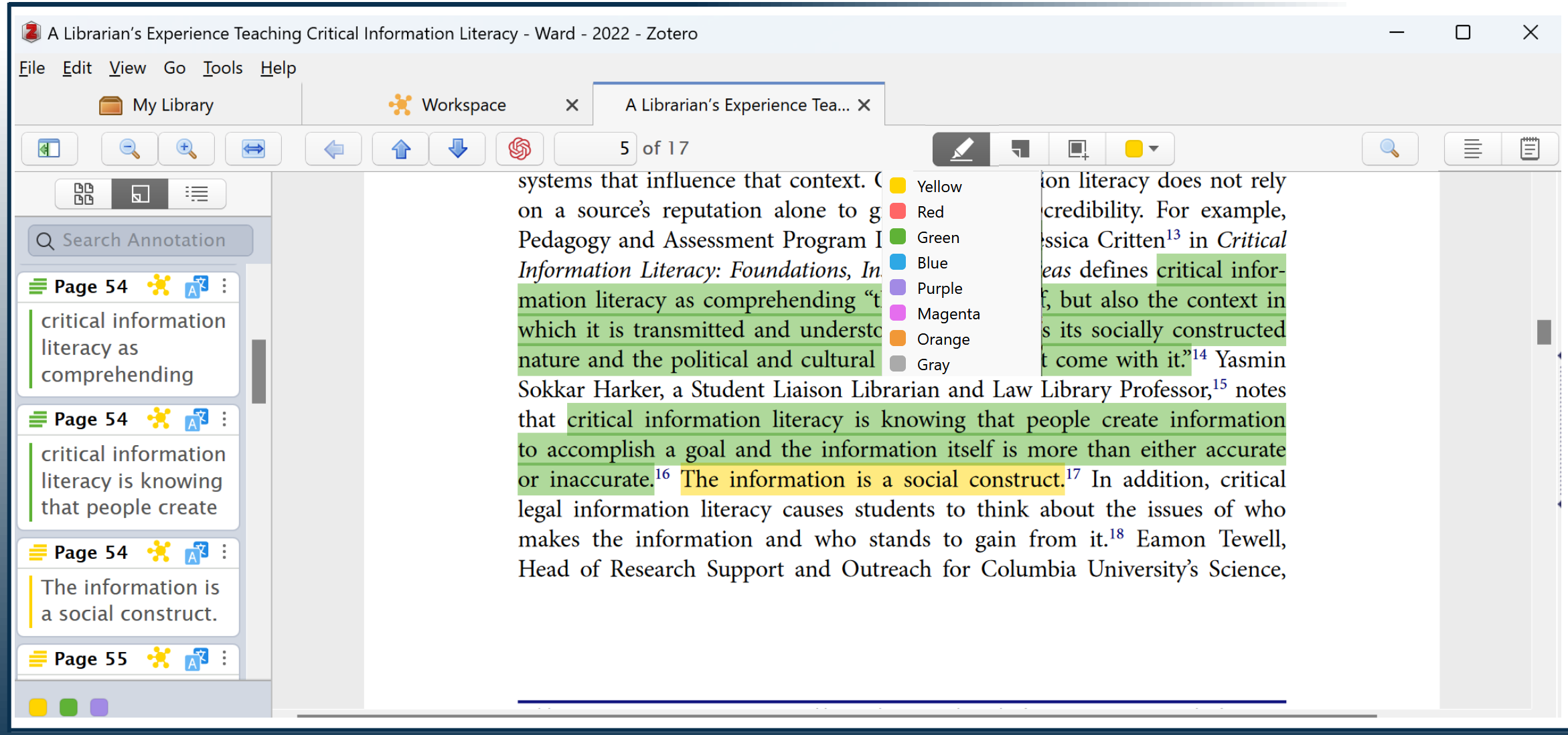

Browser Extensions

diigo

- Annotate web pages as you browse online.
- Organize links, references, and notes by manual sort.

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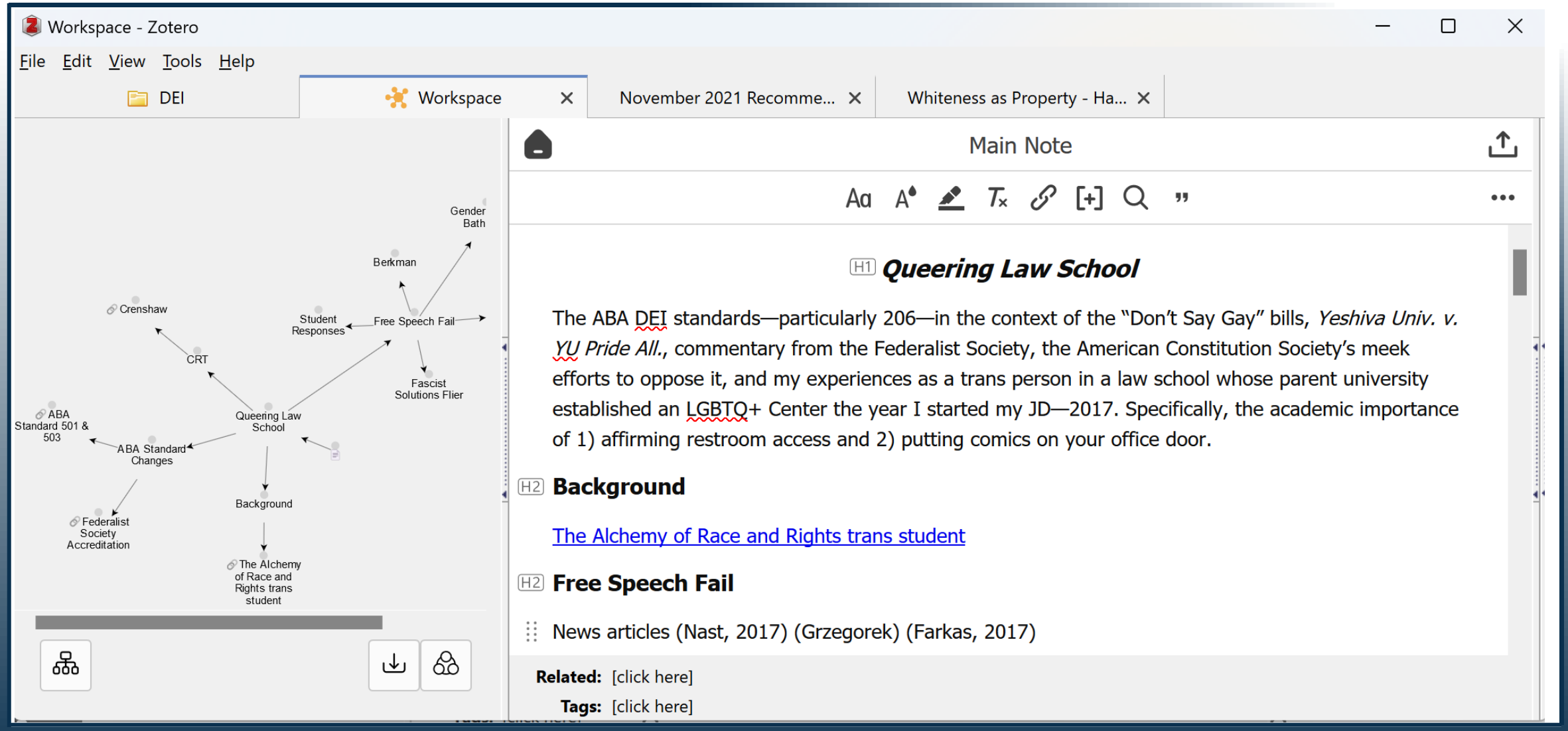
- Share resources and notes with colleagues.

Better Notes



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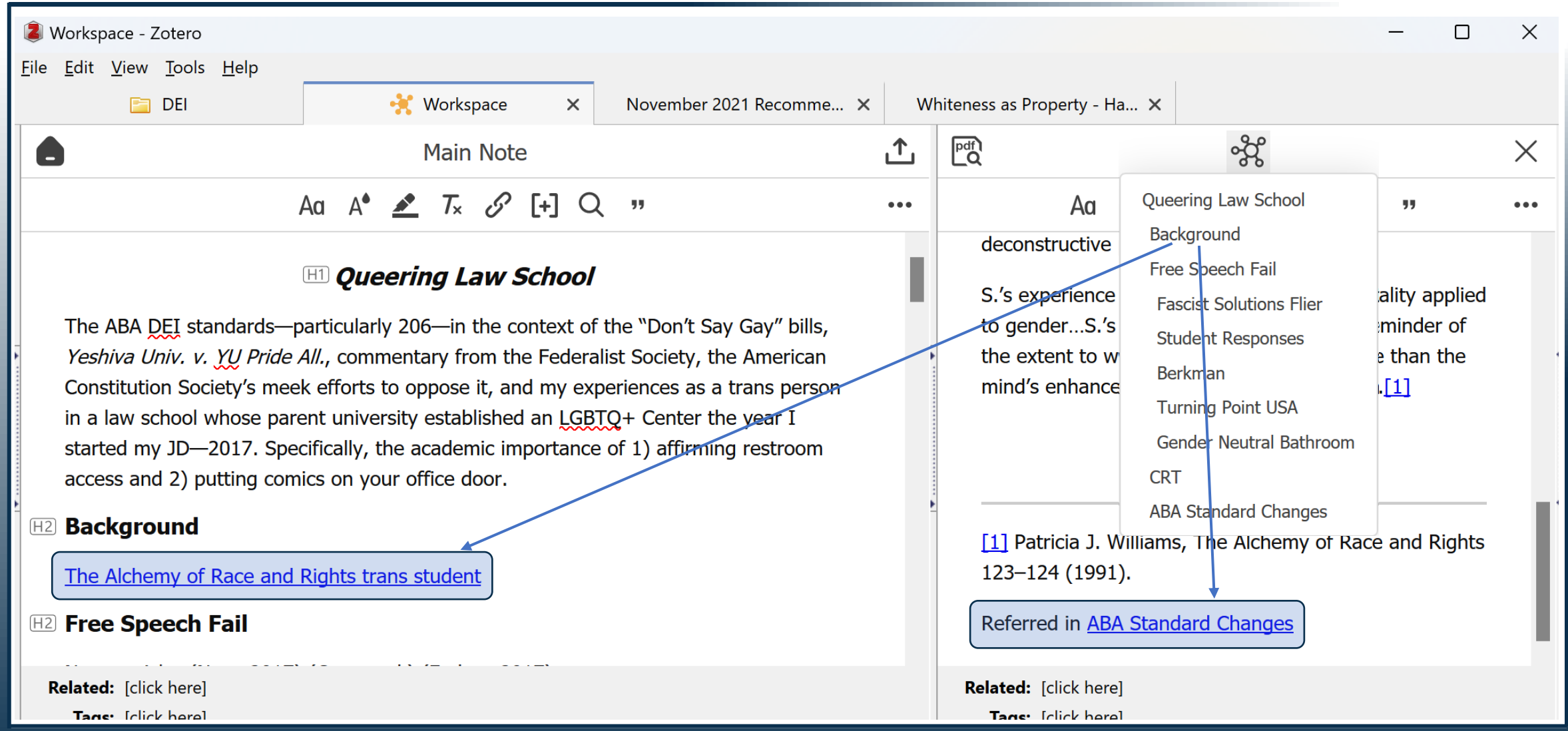

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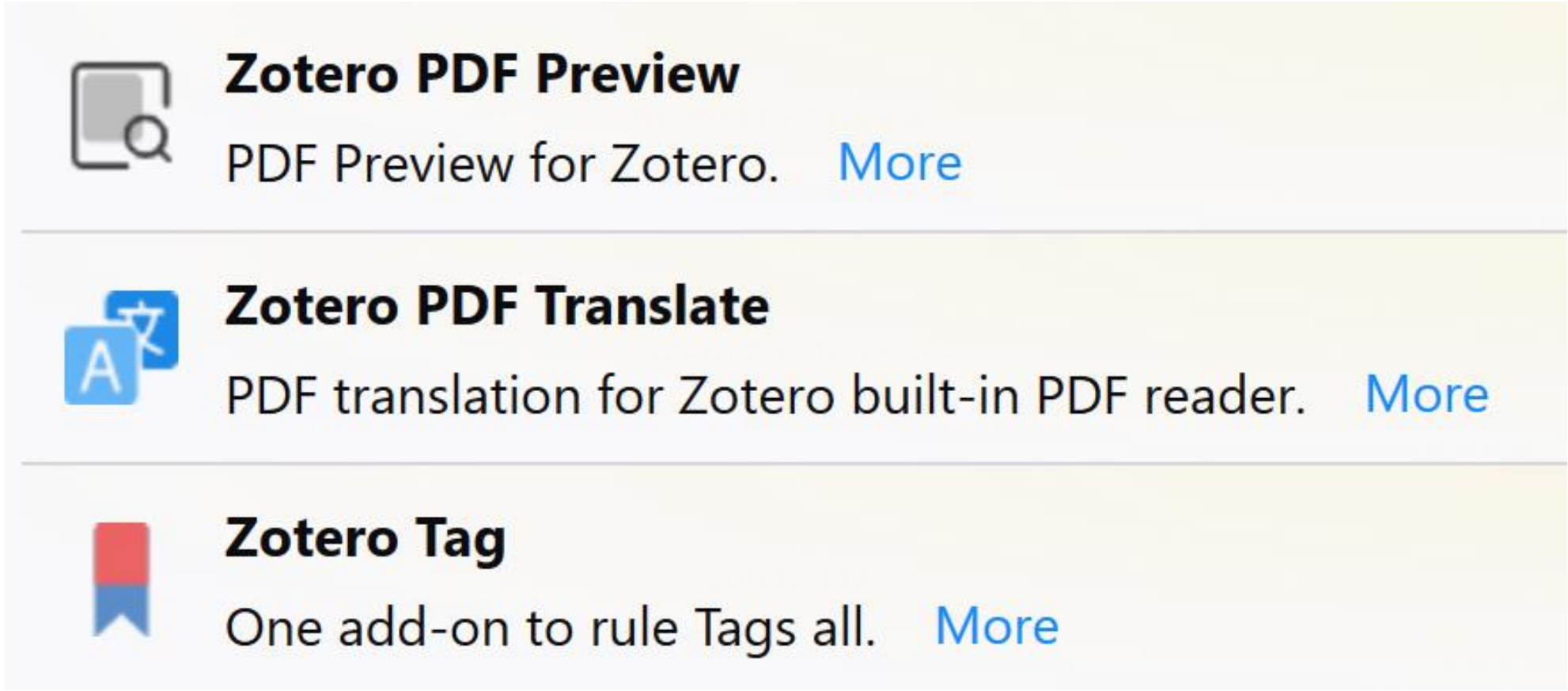
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