
Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: Fascist and far right street formations in Britain 1980-2020 and anti-fascist resistance

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Project abstract:

I am looking to see what parallels, patterns and what divergences there are in extreme right street mobilisations over recent decades. I will also look at resistance to the far right at street level. The similarities in approach between different far right groups and the striking use of football firms (hooligans) will be a feature of some research, for instance around the English Defence League and the Football Lads Alliance. I'll also look to discover how anti fascists opposed such groups. Key actors will be focused on and I'll look to discover new insights particularly as to how far right groups faced opponents. Organisations such as trade unions working with anti-fascists were central at times. Splinter groups within the far right from larger formations will also be assessed. I'll look at emotional patterns within the far right, around charismatic leaders and how anti fascists also contained actors with very understandably, emotional responses at moments. I will also look at how abuse survivors opposed the far right and how they aided anti fascists.

I aim to use and locate primary source documents that are in the public domain, either through publically accessible collections such as the Searchlight Archive or because they are open-access webpages. I will not be putting into the public domain anyone's name who is not already known within the context of either the far right or anti-fascist opposition.

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Copyright information:

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Fascist and far right street formations in Britain 1980-2020 and anti-fascist resistance

Data Collection

What data will you collect or create?

I will be collating data already in the public domain, such as from the Searchlight Archive. This data will relate to extreme right street groups. I will take images of archival material, and these will be stored on a university-approved SharePoint. The archive material will be used to compare street mobilisations under study.

I will also be interviewing selected anti-fascist activists. I will record these interviews and will transcribe them, and store this data in a university-approved SharePoint drive.

Any material such as interviews and images of archival material will later be shared and placed in the Searchlight Archive, ensuring data can be reused.

Data volume will increase as the project develops. As images, as well as text, are involved, and potentially 10 Gb might be used. Additional costs should not need to be used as access and storage will not exceed the above. I don't see challenges arising as data will be kept to UON-owned spaces, i.e. a UON SharePoint drive and the Searchlight Archive.

My textual data will be in plain text, and will be open regarding format. I will use a common file format such as JPEG for images and at the point of depositing data I will defer to the preferred file formats stipulated by the Searchlight Archivist.

How will the data be collected or created?

I will collate data over the course of the research and put it onto a University of Northampton-approved SharePoint drive for the duration of the project. Data will be collated from archival research, and interviews with anti-fascists. After the project, I will put any data relevant for future research into the Searchlight Archive at UON.

I will structure the files on the basis of the chapters of my research, for instance, from 1980 - 1990, 1990 -2000 and so on. My folders and files will follow this basis. The earlier part of my work will focus on the British Movement and emerging post-National Front splinter groups and the following folders and files will reflect later groups such as the English Defence League.

Quality assurance processes focus on ensuring data is accurately recorded and processed. I will ensure materials relate to the groups and organisations I attribute them to, so I will include when collating all relevant data required for citing and using archival sources. I will also use high-quality image files when recording data from archives, to ensure data is not lost. In terms of interviews developing long-form discussions that allow participants to explain and express themselves fully and clearly. My research methodology will be cross-referencing claims in interviews with other data sources to again ensure the accuracy of my analysis. The quality of data will be constantly assessed and calibrated via discussion with supervisors. I will be following standard Oral History best practice approaches.

Documentation and Metadata

What documentation and metadata will accompany the data?

Secondary users will be provided with the name and the date of the interview, and the content will be understandable to those who seek to reuse the data when it is deposited in the Searchlight Archive. Interviews will be recorded on Teams, or potentially in person, and then transcribed. Regarding metadata, details such as files, images, and web pages, will be put on UON-approved sites.

Ethics and Legal Compliance

How will you manage any ethical issues?

I will use a participation consent approach to deal with the issue of anonymity of participants. This is typical of oral history approaches, and participants are likely to be comfortable with their actions being the object of study. Thus, I will tell any participants that the thesis will make reference to interview recordings and will name the interviewee. Interviewees will be able to obtain a copy of their interview transcript, along with updates on the project if they wish. If they do not wish for their interview to appear in the archive, they can discuss it with the researcher. I will take duty of care to interviewees most seriously and any mental health issues they may have.

Their consent and involvement will be able to be withdrawn at any time up to one month after the interview if they wish.

I have been on online ethical data courses UON approved and am aware of complexities and concerns regarding this area.

How will you manage copyright and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues?

The data will be stored as said at the Searchlight Archive. As with many oral history interviews, the interviewee will retain the copyright of the content. If there are any issues regarding the copyright of data at the end of the project, this will be dealt with by the Searchlight Archivist.

Storage and Backup

How will the data be stored and backed up during the research?

I will store research on UON SharePoint drive which will not incur a cost, and after the project will deposit material in the Searchlight Archive which has standard archival processes for storing digital data. This will not incur a cost either.

I will transcribe the data and these files will also be stored on SharePoint and in the Searchlight Archive.

How will you manage access and security?

As above, I will only use University systems to ensure data is secure. Access to data is my responsibility and I will put data collected onto these systems only. There will be a password to protect online data, and data in the Searchlight Archive will be stored and made available using their standard processes.

Selection and Preservation

Which data are of long-term value and should be retained, shared, and/or preserved?

Data will be kept for long-term use in the Searchlight Archive. After the completion of the research, with the interviewee's permission, I aim for transcriptions and recordings to be donated to the Searchlight Archive.

What is the long-term preservation plan for the dataset?

As above, data will be preserved in the Searchlight Archive. There is no cost for data to be put here.

Data Sharing

How will you share the data?

Data will be accessible to those who contact Searchlight Archive should they wish to see it. Data would be available from when being placed in the Archive, at the project's completion.

Are any restrictions on data sharing required?

I do not foresee the need for a data-sharing agreement. The data would be publicly accessible upon being placed in the Archive. I would complete any questions of confidentiality before placing data in the Archive.

Responsibilities and Resources

Who will be responsible for data management?

I am responsible for data management. This will include storage, backup and archiving, for instance.

No partners are involved in the research. I am responsible for ensuring guidelines regarding responsibilities in accordance with the UON principles relevant here, are observed.

What resources will you require to deliver your plan?

Additional software is not required for my research, nor is expert training.