Ethical Considerations of Including Personal Demographic Information in Open Knowledge Platforms

Start of Block: Survey Description

GLAMs (galleries, libraries, archives, museums) are some of the most trusted and authoritative institutions in the world. That trust stems from perceived values and ethics GLAM institutions adhere to, such as security of collections, equitable access to information, donor confidentiality, and respect for the privacy of a person's gender identity. As GLAM institutions look for ways to further expand discovery of resources to an increasingly global audience, institutions may rely on crowdsourcing and linked open data repositories (e.g., Wikidata) to assist in these goals. As institutions engage in authoring and disseminating demographic information more widely in open platforms, they will need to acknowledge that others may edit and use this information for research but also commercial purposes. GLAM employees will have little control over the reuse or permanence of this information. This survey is for members of GLAM institutions that have begun to contribute to open knowledge projects (Wikidata, Wikipedia, SNAC, etc.). The purpose of the survey is to learn about policies and practices, or lack thereof, GLAM staff are following around contributing demographic information for living people (e.g., Sex or Gender, Ethnic Group, Race, Sexual Orientation, etc.) to open knowledge projects. Information collected from this survey will inform an ethical investigation into issues surrounding these practices. The results will be used to write a journal article on ethics and open knowledge projects, and may also be shared via conferences or other writings. Your participation in this survey is voluntary. You may choose not to participate. If you decide to participate in this research survey, you may withdraw at any time. All personal information will be confidential. We will make our best effort to protect your individual survey responses so that no one will be able to connect your responses with you or your organization. The three principal investigators working on this project are Greta Kuriger Suiter (gsuiter@mit.edu), Kurt Hanselman (khanselman@sdsu.edu), and Nerissa Lindsey (nlindsey@sdsu.edu). If you have any questions about this survey, feel free to contact us. Completing this survey should take approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Thank you for your participation.
Click here for our full IRB Consent Form and Approval

- ○ I consent to take this survey (4)
- ○ I don't consent to take this survey (5)

Skip To: End of Survey If GLAMs (galleries, libraries, archives, museums) are some of the most trusted and authoritative in... = I don't consent to take this survey

End of Block: Survey Description

Start of Block: What country do you work in?

Q1 In which country do you currently reside?

▼ Afghanistan (1) ... Zimbabwe (1357)

Display This Question:

If List of Countries = United States of America

Q1b In which state do you currently reside?

▼ Alabama (1) ... I do not reside in the United States (53)

Q2 Please select the option that best describes your place of work. If you work at more than one institution feel free to take the survey multiple times to reflect open knowledge projects (Wikidata, Wikipedia, SNAC, etc.) at each institution.

- ○ Academic library (1)
- ○ Archives, academic and/or special collections (2)
- ○ Archives, corporate (8)
- ○ Archives, government and/or special collections (9)
- ○ Archives, community/historical societies (11)
- ○ Archives, religious (12)
- ○ Art gallery (4)
- ○ Museum (5)
- ○ Public library (6)
- ○ Other, please list (13) _____

Q3 Is your institution working on any open knowledge projects?

- ○ Yes (1)
- ○ Not yet, but we're in the planning stages (2)
- ○ No (3)

Skip To: End of Survey If Is your institution working on any open knowledge projects? = No

Q4 What open knowledge project(s) is your instiutiton working on? Check all that apply:

- [ ] Wikidata (1)
- [ ] Wikipedia (2)
- [ ] SNAC (Social Networks and Archival Contex) (3)
- [ ] Other, please list (4) _____

Q5 How many people at your institution are working on (part or full-time) open knowledge projects?

- ○ 1-2 (1)
- ○ 3-5 (2)
- ○ 6-10 (3)
- ○ 11+ (4)

Q6 How long has your organization been involved in working with open knowledge projects?

- ○ Less than 1 year (1)
- ○ 1-2 years (2)
- ○ 3-5 Years (3)
- ○ 6+ Years (4)

Q7 Does your institution include personal demographic information for people who are still living as part of the open knowledge project work? Check all that apply:

- [ ] Sex or Gender (1)
- [ ] Ethnic Group (2)
- [ ] Race (3)
- [ ] Sexual Orientation (4)
- [ ] We don't include any of this information (5)
- [ ] Other, please list (6) _____

Q8 Does your institution follow any policy or policies pertaining to the inclusion of personal demographic Information (Sex or Gender, Ethnic Group, Race, Sexual Orientation, etc.) for people who are still living as part of the open knowledge project work?

- ○ Written (1)
- ○ Informal/Unwritten (4)
- ○ Both (3)
- ○ No (2)

Q9 What resources have informed your practices and policies of including or not including personal demographic information as part of your open knowledge project work?

- [ ] Published articles (1)
- [ ] Community best practices (2)
- [ ] Workshops (3)
- [ ] Listservs (4)
- [ ] Conferences (5)
- [ ] Word of mouth (6)
- [ ] Other, please list (7) _____

Q10 If you include personal demographic information as part of the open knowledge project work, what sources do you use to get this information? Check all that apply:

- [ ] ORCID (1)
- [ ] Authority file records (2)
- [ ] Directly from the person being described (3)
- [ ] Institution website (4)
- [ ] Social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.) (7)
- [ ] Other public website (5)
- [ ] Other source, please list (6) _____

Q11 Do you include references for any personal demographic information that you include in your description as part of the open knowledge project work?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

Q12 If you include information about Gender as part of the open knowledge project work, do you use any kind of controlled vocabularies (e.g. Homosaurus, Library of Congress Demographic Group Terms, or others) to determine what term you use?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Other, please explain (3) _____

Q13 By including personal demographic information as part of your open knowledge project, what is your desired outcome?

_____

Q14 Do you use any specific queries (SPARQL, or others) related to this personal demographic data that serve a purpose either for research or some other internal use?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

Display This Question:

If Do you use any specific queries (SPARQL, or others) related to this personal demographic data tha... = Yes

Q15 Which personal demographic data queries do you use? Check all that apply:

- [ ] Sex or Gender (1)
- [ ] Ethnic Group (2)
- [ ] Race (3)
- [ ] Sexual Orientation (4)
- [ ] Other, please list (5) _____

Display This Question:

If Do you use any specific queries (SPARQL, or others) related to this personal demographic data tha... = Yes

Q16 Are you using data from these queries to inform any Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion initiatives at your institution?

- ○ Yes (1)
- ○ No (2)

End of Block: What country do you work in?

Start of Block: Block 5

Thank you for your participation in this survey!

End of Block: Block 5

Start of Block: Block 1

Start of Block: Country

Start of Block: State