
Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

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

Creator: paul sillett

Principal Investigator: paul sillett

Data Manager: paul sillett

Affiliation: University of Northampton

Template: DCC Template

ORCID iD: Yes

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.

ID: 175131

Start date: 01-12-2024

End date: 21-08-2029

Last modified: 31-05-2025

Grant number / URL: N/A

Copyright information:

The above plan creator(s) have agreed that others may use as much of the text of this plan

as they would like in their own plans, and customise it as necessary. You do not need to credit the creator(s) as the source of the language used, but using any of the plan's text does not imply that the creator(s) endorse, or have any relationship to, your project or proposal

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-fascists. Three such individuals, if they agree, are known in the public sphere as anti fascists. Taking part by the interviewees is entirely voluntary on their part and they are free to pause or stop if they wish at any stage. This i have and will again communicate to them. I shall do this by emailing all a Consent form. This will detail the responsibilities i bear to then and how i will ensure these are enacted to interviewees approval. 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 dive and the Searchlight Archive. I will talk to UON IT office if i think there may be issues concerning data transfer and seek their advice.

I have decided on the following formats below as they will be beneficial to prolonged research and due their wide use, will be straightforward for those supervising me and others to track the project.

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 when about to deposit data I will defer to the preferred file formats as stipulated by the Searchlight Archivist. This makes sense for the clarity and robustness of data collected. It will aid me to steadily and efficiently access and coordinate data.

I found this useful. <https://www.eua.eu/our-work/expert-voices/how-findable-accessible-interoperable-and-reusable-data-enables-research-led-education.html>

From it factors such as watching where i place data for mistakes is critical. Excel will be helpful in the validation of data.

1. Be consistent and follow other data management best practices, such as data organization and documentation.
2. Document any data inconsistencies you encounter.
3. Check all datasets for duplicates and errors.
4. Use data validation tools (such as those in Excel and other software) where possible

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. This will be stored on a password protected file. Research already in

the public domain will be stored in such a folder. I will ensure that any questions of copyright clearance are transparent throughout the project..

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.

I will see that any changes and updates made to files, include the date, author and how and when any modifying of files are chronologically made. To ensure differentiation between versions of files I would number the different versions of documents, for instance, document 1.0, document 1.02 and so on. I would use a version control scheme whereby details of which versions of the document exist, what if any, changes are made by me and when are recorded. I would thus securely keep control of any changes to files and my documents.

I will plan to ensure the data established is of a very high standard by the following means.

I will analyse and overview data as i gather it. As the project develops data, I shall assess it regularly. For instance, both before and after meetings with supervisors. In a sense, supervisors may act as peer reviewers of data i produce, particularly in written form as with my Literature Review. I shall continually look to eradicate issues such as inaccuracy in data gathering and any inadvertent reproduction of existing data.

I shall ensure the standards of the data is accurate, academically rigorous and essential to my project by continual cross referencing of my research, for example, across other work in the field. By using online methods as above, such as the Research Share Point, i shall closely scrutinize data amassed. I shall use a form of data standardization, for example, by looking to standardize data accrued and the entry of data . I shall use the data dictionary method in order to gain the best possible accuracy in my data. I shall use the Excel spreadsheet model to highlight key data and its place in the research. Chapters of research will be itemized to denote the structure of the dictionary and it's accessibility. I will utilise the dictionary to input data as i accrue key elements and the source references of the data. As creator, i will closely monitor the dictionary.

Documentation and Metadata

What documentation and metadata will accompany the data?

Secondary users will be provided with the name and the date of the interviews, and the content will be understandable to those who seek to reuse the data when it is deposited in the Searchlight Archive. People seeking to locate the data can via email, correspond with the Searchlight Archivist at UON. The creator of such data, when the data was placed in the Archive, when it was recorded and the topic of particular data will be within the Archive and known to the Archivist. The Archivists will also let any interested parties know the methods needed to access data within by filling out a form on the UON

Archive website.

Interviews will be recorded on Microsoft Teams and then via Teams used to transcribe recordings. I will ensure the interviewee is happy with this method pre interview, before the interview and post interview. If any issues are raised by the interviewee, I shall address them urgently. As above, such documentation will be secured in a password protected folder on the UON online site. I will talk to interviewees about conducting the interview according to the guidelines of the British GPDR Data Protection Act. I shall only proceed with the interviews if interviewees agree with this procedure and understand it.

Metadata, details such as files, images, and web pages, will only be put on UON-approved sites. This is to ensure interviewees for instance. Observing the Metadata Standards, I will as research develops, use metadata to say how and at what stages of research i came to key points in my work, for instance, insights into powerful actors studied.

To maintain the thoroughness of research, alongside interviews I shall use secondary data analysis, for instance, of materials in the Searchlight Archive. The integrity of research can be established from analysis of documents in the Archive and drawing from them. Organising methodically data from the Archive will also aid the relevant input of materials.

The UK Data Service recommendation's of the following format for 'data use, sharing and preservation' is one i will follow. <https://ukdataservice.ac.uk/learning-hub/research-data-management/format-your-data/recommended-formats/>

I will use the MS Excel xls/.xlsx and SPSS as both will assist in the easy access and preservation of data. They will enable the research to be stored in data bases with file headers to ensure data is ordered and structured to maintain clarity.

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. I will talk through this with interviewees about any issues they may wish to raise and will only proceed with their satisfaction with the procedure. This will happen pre interview and as stated the interviews are voluntary on the interviewee's part.

I would use Google Chrome for trying to ensure security and news on maintaining security.

Thus, I will tell any participants that the thesis will make reference to interview recordings. I will though offer anonymity to participants at all stages of their involvement. Those who are known as anti fascists will be offered anonymity and i will adhere to their wishes to be anonymous if they so wish. If however, they are willing to forego anonymity due to their public status i will acknowledge and respect this. I would inform interviewees that mention by name of their friends, family or political opponents can be redacted at any time should the interviewee wish.

I recognise that anonymity can be crucial to not misrepresent interviewee's views. I base guidance on anonymization of participants from this guide. <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/uk-gdpr-guidance-and-resources/data-sharing/anonymisation/how-do-we-ensure-anonymisation-is-effective/>

Thus, I will consider who the person wishes to be anonymous from, for instance, family and/or the wider public. I would blur or mask the interviewee on camera or use audio instead to ensure anonymity. Filming the interviewee from the back would also inform this. Their face will be invisible if they so wish this. Tattoos, a necklace or item of jewellery can be located by a hostile actor so care and consideration would be given to recorded camera appearance if the interview is in camera.

I would disguise a person's voice if requested by for example, using a 'voice over'. Were this situation to be a possibility, i would seek advice of supervisors and inform the Archivist should i implement this. The UK Data Service advice on the issues of informed consent is most helpful. For instance, directions on the voluntary centrality of participants and how data will be stored in Archive. If the interviewee agreed, i would wish for interviews to stored in the Searchlight Archive for a protracted length of time, as long as the Archive functions.

I would seek to comply with Data Protection Law. Moreover, I will keep updated with any changes to the law, like guidance or case law and any technological impacts. Supervisors would oversee my work here but I am responsible for effective anonymisation. I will collect persona; data only key for my research. I am aware of the two main forms of disclosure; limited access and open release. I will liase with supervisors on whether it is necessary to undertake a Data Protection Impact assessment to minimise any risk of not complying with the GDPR.

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 of course approach me at any time about this. I take duty of care to interviewees seriously and any mental health issues they may have (I have experience of this in my employment).

I will inform participants how data will be used, stored and shared. Only after asking and gaining agreement from participants would I use and/or share data they may provide. Use of audio recording in an interview would be in a file stored again in a password protected folder. I would tell interviewees that their permission letters and consent forms would be put for security, in the protected UON Research SharePoint.

Their consent and involvement will be able to be withdrawn at any time up to six months after the interview if they wish. I would ask the interviewee if they wish for any limits on availability or use of their interview. Participants would be told of their rights concerning copyright law and that the interviewee also retains copyright rights. I would ensure that interviewees have copies of the consent and participation information forms and that interviewees know what rights they have.

I have been on online ethical data courses which are UON approved and am aware of complexities and concerns regarding this area. I would inform participants that should any of their personal data be breached i would swiftly report this to the Data Protection and Information Governance Team and to my supervisors.

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

Data will be stored at the Searchlight Archive. As with many oral history interviews, the interviewee will retain the copyright of the content, alongside the interviewer. If there are any issues regarding the copyright of data at any stage of the project, I will talk to Supervisors in the first instance this arises and follow their advice. I will apply the Creative Commons (CC) approach to data being reused. Thus, any who use the data must also license any further works on the same Creative Commons conditions. Another asset is that data will be unable to be used for purposes of commercial advantage. The CC also means any who use the data must credit the data's creator by name and source of data. This would be in conjunction with Uon policy and aligned to the Pure system.

It is preferable as on a CC license becoming live, the public can legally access it as the license permits. I retain my copyright and interviewees right are respected too. I will own the data of data formed, alongside interviewees for their participant resource. This is as I am not funded by UON or a third party and it is my sole project.

Authors i quote will necessarily be referenced but my project is my private development. I would think hard before looking for a patent before any form of publishing. If the work is of the standard to publish, this would inform thinking. My understanding is that publishing (should this happen) does not preclude seeking a patent so I would seek a patent only if supervisors advised this.

•

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 costs. Post the project data will be deposited in the Searchlight Archive which has standard archival processes for storing digital data. This will not incur costs either.

I will transcribe the data and these files will also be stored on SharePoint and in the Searchlight Archive. I will liaise with UON IT to ensure any issues with backup are dealt with. I will back up data once every quarter and only on UON sites. This is where data will be stored and backed up throughout research. I will not store data on my laptop as this appears fraught with dangers.

I will use backup incrementally. This will help to save data that I may change and/or add as research develops. I understand that less storage space is needed which is advantageous. I will initially exercise a full backup to ensure progress.

Before an unwanted data incident may occur I will contact UON IT and establish how to prepare for such a possibility. Should data loss or accidents occur, I will immediately, with IT help when possible, look to establish the source and as quickly as possible seek to neutralise the incident. I would then aim to stop the problem(s) and try to recover as much as possible of data that may have been affected. I realise that the best way to try to avoid data loss is a sharp backup system. This heightens the possibility of recovering data.

Data security will be preserved by methods such as the installation of Uon approved anti virus and malware functions. Robust password, encrypted as above and protection advised by <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/top-tips-for-staying-secure-online> is also very helpful. For example, two step verification via the security setting in my UON account can aid stopping any attempt to access my account at UON and research. I also regularly change my password at UON to try to maintain this.

For research accessibility I will use digital file formats and any relevant software, if compatible with UON. This would mean converting data to standard formats. MS Word and MS Excel are helpful. For my purposes I would think about data conversion. This would aid being able to access data over the course of the project.

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.

The most serious threats to data security are, to my knowledge, backdoor or vulnerability attack, for instance when Microsoft Servers were attacked in 2021. Hostile actors got access to peoples' e-mail and were able to install malware also. The US Government was targeted.

There is also cryptojacking. This means measures can be taken to encrypt files so that the hostile person(s) can access them, not the original user/researcher. Unless money is exchanged, the person attacked may may not regain any access to the data held. The user may often be unaware for some

time so security against it is crucial. DDoS or distributed denial of service is when a site is overwhelmed with traffic. The result can be computers and obviously data being unusable for a long period and data being lost. Bots can then target site's internal workings and look for vulnerable parts of the site, including research obviously. Weak passwords and data leaking are also dangers to security.

To lessen risks, several options are key. Being on top of data will help, for instance, where any sensitive information like interviews are securely located and online, only. Strongly encrypted passwords and routine assessing of data security means research is monitored for any hostile acts. Ensuring that my access to data is rigorous and using a firewall, UON approved can aid here. An old hard drive which is void and made indecipherable is also advantageous. Preparing for bad actors to target you is also useful. UON IT advice regularly communicated is very helpful here.

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, but only with the interviewee's permission, I aim for transcriptions and recordings to be donated to the Searchlight Archive. Data which may be published, subject to the above guidelines, might be kept in the Archive. Again, communications with Supervisors will influence this.

The data will hopefully be of use to researchers and scholars in the field of study especially. I hope it will shed new insights on key individuals and the groups studied. I would hope that students at University and A level would find aspects of it relevant to their enquiries when studying the extreme right. I hope it is of historical, current and public interest and not only for those already engaged in topics i cover. There is more to be added to the canon academically in this area and i hope, modestly, to contribute to studies.

Other researchers finding my research productive in their studies based on my data would show that my project is of value and sufficient freshness to use. Developing any insights I originally offer would be of value for students and perhaps the wider public

No further costs will be incurred in depositing data to Searchlight Archive. As data and files would be stored on accessible systems, no great extra tasks would be incurred in sharing and keeping it at the Archive at UON. I will analyse the use of interviews and research in cross referencing across studies by other researchers and authors. This will help to validate research.

The 'selection and appraisal' process as it is termed, would if my project is deemed worthy of it, see it stored at Searchlight Archive for a lengthy time period. I would of course consult with the Archive and be guided by their thoughts. It's uniqueness, importance to the Archive and historical value for instance, would all, i realise be amongst the key factors in deciding this. IPR and the Creative Commons license are other variable here, alongside ethical issues, of course. I am aware of what is best practice and strive to maintain this to be considered for the above in the 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 view it. Data would be available from when being placed in the Archive, at the project's finish.

I would aim that research would be suitable for possible inclusion on UON sites such as a link to the Searchlight Archive. The UON may wish for research to be put on an open access site, after security was established. Peer review journals would be another avenue I would aim to explore.

Academic sites such as JSTOR and UON approved academic sites would, were I able to, carry aspects of my research. However, I would talk to supervisors before any such developments were started.

This site was helpful in considering the sharing of data. For instance, on the Data Protection Act and GDPR. I would consider the protection where necessary of interviewees and make sure that the security around interviews was maintained. It being so, I would share data that doesn't break the law and is sought by other researchers or students in pursuit of their studies. If any interviewee said they were in a vulnerable situation I would pause immediately any sharing of their record.

I carefully will consider possible risks of sharing data before so doing. Though it may prove impossible to share some data from participants, questions asked and surrounding data may prove helpful those accessing my research. Hopefully, data stored in The Archive at UON, could form part of other academic work on the extreme right at its street level. Data both qualitative and quantitative deposited can illustrate the validity of my research.

Consideration of the following will inform my acts, for instance, does UON have views on this and how does sharing data improve any effects of my research, academically. I would wish my data to be accessible and reusable, again after seeing that the dataset for my metadata is secure. This will aid understanding of research.

I'd aim to make data accessible by putting it as open data in software such as OSF, subject to UON approval, in accordance with the UK Data Archive. This would ideally mean a permanent link to data. The UK Data Service would help assist in creating manageable access to any sensitive data, around interviews, for example. If access required restrictions, I would state this via metadata and ask UON IT for guidance.

The FAIR principles of 2016, alongside UON rules, would inform when any data was made available to the public or researchers. Before any data was to be published I would aim to see it was available to researchers, if my supervisors deem it appropriate. But data would be in a repository before any outlet like a journal published any data. I would dat to be publicly available and used by those who have an academic interest and students who may find it aids study.

I would consult with interviewees prior to any publishing, either online or in hard copy. I would abide by GDPR before any publishing to ascertain whether any stress may be caused to any named in the interview or the interviewee themselves. This would include any potential for libel or accusations of wrong doing. Interviewees before any publishing would have been informed by myself about how data may be used, as part of safeguarding responsibilities to them. If interviewees are satisfied with the process of data sharing then I would go ahead with sharing, according to UON approved methods.

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.