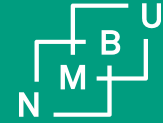


Ethical Challenges for Internet Research



deborah.oughton@nmbu.no

Research Director, Centre for Environmental Radioactivity, Norway

Prof II, University of Oslo – Research Ethics

Former Deputy Chair Norwegian Research Ethics Committee for Science and Technology

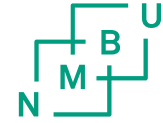


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RICOMET, Slovenia 15-18th June 2015



Use of social media data in teaching



#overlyhonestmethods

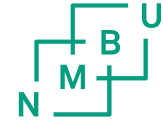


Overview



- Evolution of research ethics
 - Relevant to IT research
 - Relevant to radiation communication
- What guidelines exist for internet research?
- Changing perceptions of privacy in the modern world?

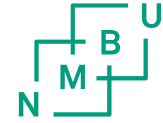
Research Ethics: Three areas of responsibility



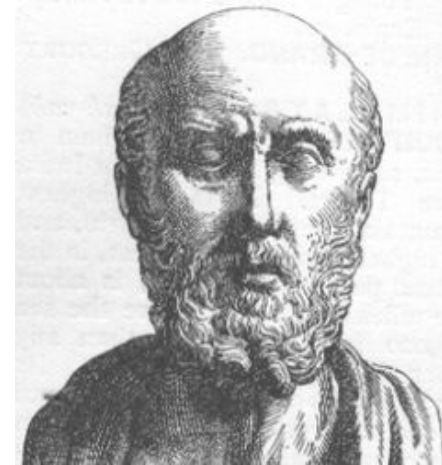
- Scientific community: research norms, fraud and misconduct, publication and authorship
- Research subjects: humans, animals
- Society: the public, environment, patents, technological risk



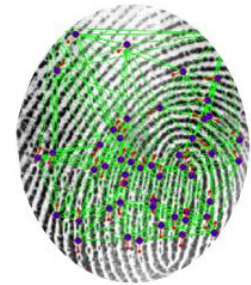
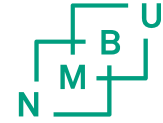
Evolution of Research Ethics



- Hippocratic Oath (5th century BC)
 - «refrain from causing injury»
- Nüremberg Trials (1945-1946)
 - Helsinki-deklarasjon (1964)



Evolution of Research Ethics – From «ouch» to a more nuanced picture of «harm»

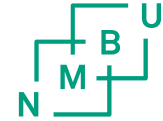


Fingerprint Analysis Software

- Issues of privacy and data storage
- Transparency, open source and access

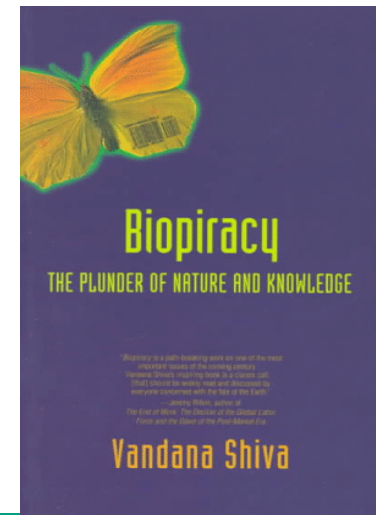
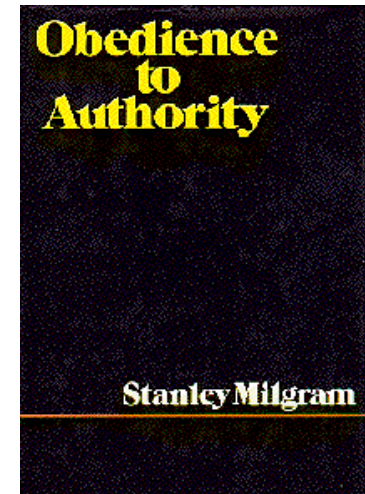


Mattputz.com



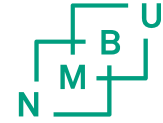
Evolution of Research Ethics – From «ouch» to a more nuanced picture of «harm»

- Extending notions of risk from physical harm to psychological, societal and other dimensions of harm
- Increased focus on the distribution of risks and benefits
 - for the research subjects
 - for society in general (global justice)
- Public participation and traditional knowledge



What Guidelines Exist?

Ethical Guidelines - Association of Internet Researchers (AOIR)



Ethical Decision-Making and Internet Research Recommendations from the AoIR Ethics Working Committee (Version 2.0)

<http://www.aoir.org/reports/ethics2.pdf>

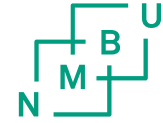
Major Tensions/Considerations

- «Human Subjects»
- Public/Private
- Data(text)/Persons



Definition of all these terms is highly context dependent.
Boundaries are ambiguous and changing

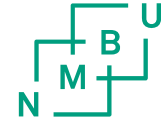
Ethical Guidelines for Internet Research



- Introduction
- Definitions
- Public or private?
- Free and informed consent
- Children's right to protection
- Personal data, confidentiality and anonymity
- Regard for third parties
- Use of quotes from the internet
- Reporting of results
- References

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NESH Research Ethics Guidelines 2006



11. Regard for third parties

Researchers should consider and anticipate effects on third parties that are not directly included in the research.

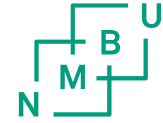
[INDIVIDUAL → RELATIONAL SELFHOOD]

Interviews, archival studies and observations often result in the scientist gaining access to information about far more individuals than those who are the focus of the study in question, or that the research may **have an impact on the privacy and close relationships of individuals not included in the research**, but who are drawn in as parties closely related to the informants.

Qualitative investigations often take place in small, transparent communities. The protection of third parties is especially important in such studies.

Changing Perceptions of Privacy?

Recognising the importance - and complexity - of privacy



- Individual privacy and autonomy →
«The peach-pit» self

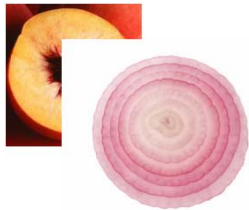


- Family and Community values →
The «relationship self»

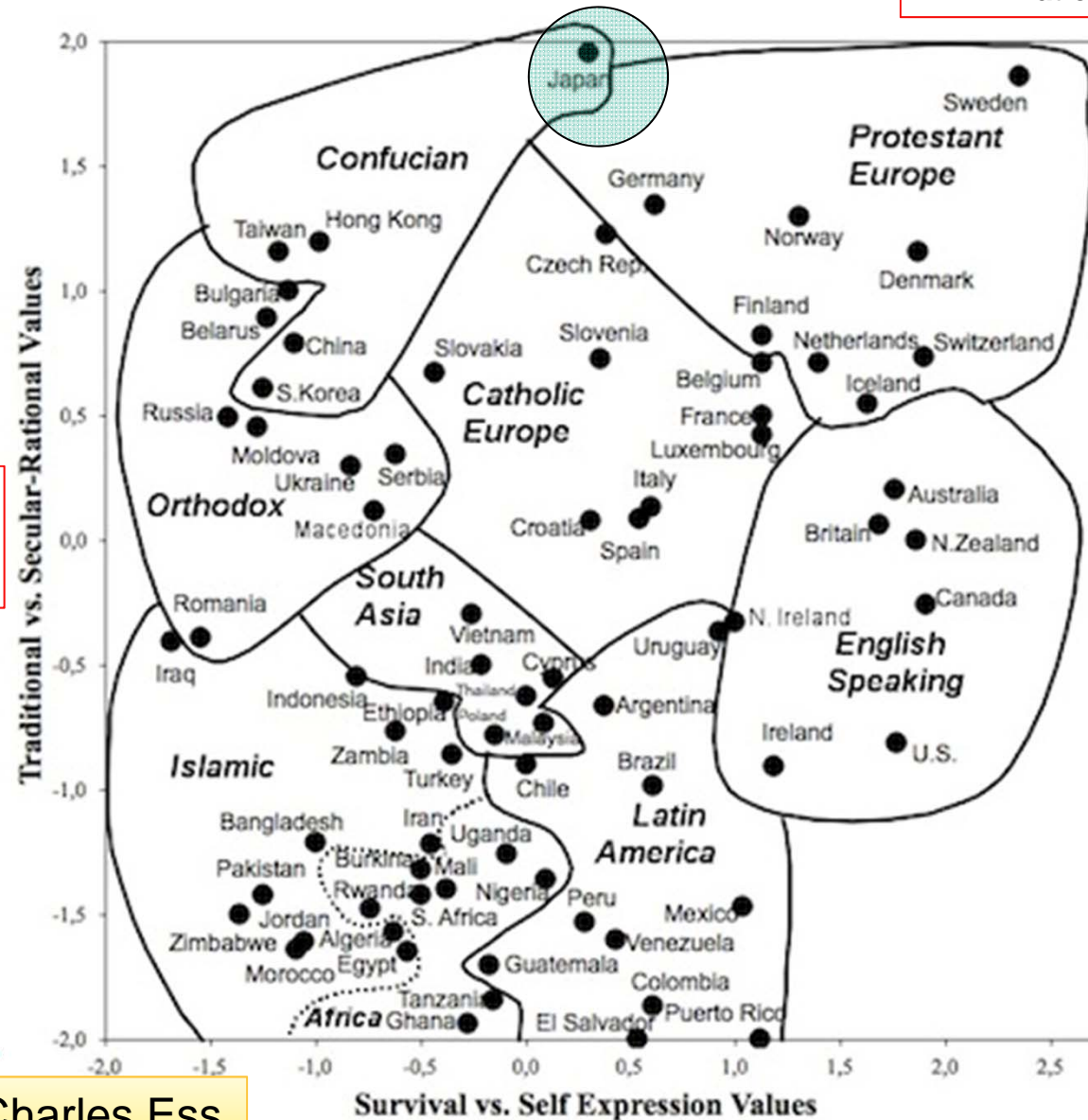


“what people care most about is not simply restricting the flow of information but ensuring that it flows appropriately”
(Nissenbaum, 2010, p. 2).

Cultural Differences



Pre-modern / traditional
RELATIONAL-(individual)
self



(high) modern
(relational-)
INDIVIDUAL+(emotive-)
rational self

(Equality
– income,
gender)

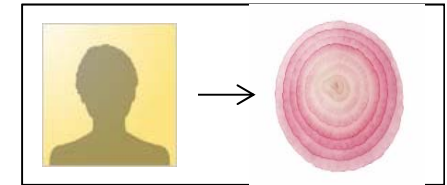


Slide adapted from Charles Ess

Slide courtesy of Charles Ess

// changing conceptions of privacy:

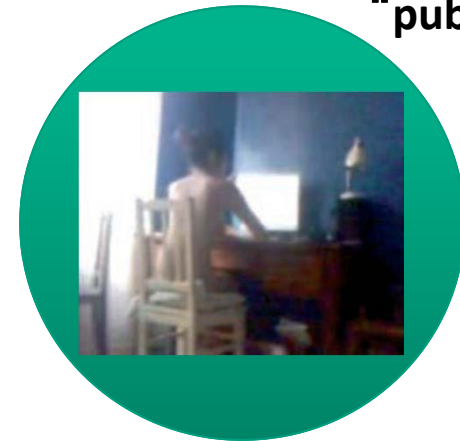
Gal ... Nissenbaum



Individual
privacy



group privacy



public

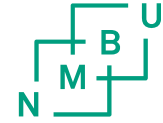
“publicity”

“publicly private” ↔ “privately public”

close friends, relatives -
videos on YouTube
“hidden” by tagging them
so that only friends and
relatives would know
how to find them

relatively unknown
“friends” - but still highly
private / personal
information re. identities,
sexual orientation, but
not, e.g., home address

(Patricia Lange (2007) in McKee & Porter 2009, 78)



Conclusions – Social Media and Communication about Radiation

- Social media as a «research source» (what are peoples' concerns; what are people saying,...)
 - Social media as – one of many - communication mechanisms
 - Social media and social networking as a way of empowering the public; strenthening community values and relationships
-

Thank You !

deborah.oughton@nmbu.no