Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: SP201 Research Project

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Template: LSE Data Management Plan for undergraduate and master's students dissertations

Project abstract:

The project will explore the economic, social and cultural factors that influence a lone mothers's employment preference and trajectory. Most of the research have solely focused on either the dominance of economic factors or the limitation of such approach, yet many lack the comparative perspective of understanding the influence of both economic and cultural factors, and the implication behind the social factors. The research will aim to provide an evaluative account to determine whether lone mothers put a better focus on economic or cultural factors when they make the decision whether or not to take up paid work in Britain.

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SP201 Research Project

Dissertation title and abstract

Name

What are the factors affecting a lone mother's employment preference and trajectory?

Department

- Social Policy

Email

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Supervisor

Amanda Sheely

Please summarise your research question in no more than three sentences.

This is a mixed method research that includes the use of both qualitative interviews and survey data from the Understanding Society Study, to explore the factors that might influence a lone mother's employment decision.

Data collection

Briefly describe the data that will be used, including any secondary sources, noting content, coverage, cost, availability, and terms of use.

My research will be based on the initial findings that I have come across when going through three different peer-reviewed qualitative research articles that are based on similar topics. I shall also draw from the three peer-reviewed quantitaive research articles that I have read to determine the dependent variables that I shall investigate in my quantitaive side of the research. They should be available at the Library, either online or in physicial copies. In terms of primary data, I will also coduct four qualitative interviews that predominantly focus on four different lone mothers in London. I shall be locating my participants through convenient sampling- to obtain my participants by approaching people whom might have close contacts with them or might have studied them before. My data should come at no extra cost at my project is not funded. The secondary resources should always be available in the library. I shall only use my data in completing my research project, all the primary data should remain confidential and anonymous.

Informed consent and anonymisation of primary research data

If you are collecting primary data, describe your process of obtaining informed consent.

In order to obtain informed consent, I should first explain to my participants what this interview is about, the purpose and the use of the data- which is to explore the different factors affecting a lone mother's employment decisions- whether eocnomic or cultural, even though most of the research fail to recognise the importance of the latter factor. I will also explain to them the resrach is a mixed method project with the first part using data from the qualitative interviews that I am conducting with them, and the second part y analysing statistics and coding variables using. My participants shall know that I am the sole researcher in this research, and no one else shall have access to my data collected from the interview as it is strictly confidential and anaonymous. I will be using a smartphone to record the interview and occasionally use pen and paper to take down the important points, but nothing collect shall be able to disclose the identity of the participants as I will not be asking for their personal information such as name or address. I will

only ask for information that I need for example age- as it could be a potential factor affecting employment decision, or education qualification etc. I will inform my participants that they have thre right to opt out from the research and to withdraw from the interview if they do not feel comfotable to contonue, and that they can contact either my supervisor or my university shall they have any concern with my research and the use of data.

If you are collecting primary data that can identify living individuals, how will you anonymise that data to prevent identification?

In my qualitative interviews, only information that are deemed useful will be collected and asked, and none of them should be able to disclose the identity of the person that I interviewed. For example I will not ask for the name of my participants, nor their address or anything so specific such as the name of the company or the business that they work for, but only general information such as the type of work that they are involved in, their age- which could potentially affect their employment decision and trajectory, and educational qualifications, previous work experience etc.

Research ethics

Does your research involve human participants (living or dead), or involve data about directly identifiable human subjects?

- Yes

Storage and back-up

How will data be stored and backed up during the research? How will you manage access and security? Is the size of your data likely to be a problem?

Data will be stored on my perosnal laptop and the laptop is protected by a password that only I know, therefore I will be the only person with access to the data collected, to ensure they are strictly confidential. There is no back up to my laptopa and once I erase them after the purpose of completing my research, the data will be destroyed completely and there will be no trace to it. Interviews will be named by the order they are conducted in to make sure no names or anything identifiable will be attached on the file.