

DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

[Project Title]

Roles and Responsibilities

This Data Management Plan (DMP) was created on [date] for submission to the National Science Foundation as required by NSF guidelines in the interest of securing funding for the proposed [Project Name] project. The aim and purpose of this DMP is to provide details of plans to preserve and make available any data collected during the project period. The Principal Investigators (PIs) for the project will be responsible for securing provisions to ensure the data are properly archived and that funding for the management of the data is secured.

The data collected for this study will be archived at the H. W. Odum Institute for Research in Social Science located at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. There, the data will be preserved and made publicly available online via the UNC Dataverse virtual archive hosted by the Odum Institute. The Odum Institute Data Archive has been awarded the internationally recognized 2014-2015 Data Seal of Approval by meeting quality guidelines for trustworthy digital repositories. As a member of the Data Preservation Alliance for the Social Sciences (Data-PASS) and the Library of Congress National Digital Stewardship Alliance (NDSA), the Odum Institute is recognized as a trusted and well-established data archive in the social science research and archiving communities. As such, it provides a strong archival and data distribution resource to the proposed project.

This DMP is intended for review by relevant NSF personnel, as well as Odum Institute staff. Pending project funding, ongoing review of this plan will ensure preservation of and access to this data.

Expected Data

The data collected for this project will consist of a dataset that contains the text of every State Supreme Court decision from 1981 to 2010. The data will be primarily collected through web scraping processes involving automated textual analysis computer programs. These processes will be applied, with permission, to the LexisNexis Academic online database to extract relevant data. In addition, data obtained from court websites, LexisNexis news searches, and direct contact with state courts may be utilized to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the data. All data collected during this project are publicly available and not sensitive in nature; rules and regulations for the protection of human subjects are not applicable to these data.

Period of Data Retention

The PIs and research institutes involved in this project are not aware of any reasons that might prohibit the sharing and re-use of the data. The data will be archived upon completion of data collection. An embargo period of one year will be placed on the data, after which the data will be made publicly available through the Odum Institute Data Archive.

Data Format Dissemination

The raw text data collected will be processed and analyzed using file formats of common quantitative statistical software formats (e.g., SAS, SPSS, R, Stata). To facilitate and encourage data sharing, the data will be made available through the UNC Dataverse website and

downloadable in multiple file formats, including tab-delimited text and those compatible with R, Stata, SPSS, and Excel. The project team will also provide the Odum Institute Data Archive with detailed information on the data collection methods and all supporting documentation including codebooks. Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) metadata standards, which have been widely adopted by the social science research community, will be applied during the creation of the metadata.

The PIs will submit to the Odum Data Archive any replication data and programming code that underlie research results presented in published articles using the data to be preserved and made accessible alongside the data. A project webpage containing details of the study, links to subsequent publications and datasets, and other study materials that augment understanding of the project will also be created, which will enhance the visibility and accessibility of the data.

Data Storage and Preservation of Access

Any data collected during the project period will be archived with the Odum Institute Data Archive. Prior to submission of the data to the Odum Institute Data Archive, data will be housed on secure servers at the PIs' institutions. The long-term strategy for the maintenance, curation, and archiving of the data will be implemented when the data are transferred to the Odum Institute for deposit in the UNC Dataverse virtual archive. The UNC Dataverse provides for automated federation and backup of all data on multiple geographically distributed servers, which provides an added layer of protection and security for the data. As a member of Data-PASS, the Odum Institute is also prepared to designate a successor for its holdings if necessary.

Funding for the long-term management of the data as described in this DMP will be secured through the proposed grant budget. As a result of this arrangement, there are no unforeseen financial considerations of which the PIs are currently aware that might impact the long-term management of the data.