# Social Media in Social Research

**Conference Programme – Monday 24 June 2013**

Bloomsbury Suite, Friends House, 173-177 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Start time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<td>10.00</td>
<td>Registration: Tea / coffee</td>
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| 10.30      | Chair’s welcome and introduction  
**Simon Haslam**, FMR Research |
| 10.35      | **Keynote speaker**  
**Dr Farida Vis**, University of Sheffield |
| 11.15      | Using social media to enhance your research activities  
**Brian Kelly**, UKOLN at the University of Bath |
| 11.45      | Using social media to investigate young people’s drug use  
**Claire Meehan**, University of Auckland |
| 12.15      | Are we getting it right? Social media users’ views on social media research  
**Gareth Morrell**, with Kelsey Beninger, Natalie Jago, Natalie Fry, NatCen Social Research |
| 12.45      | Lunch |
| 1.30       | **Skills Lab**  
**Dr Farida Vis**, University of Sheffield |
| 2.00       | Vulnerability and safeguarding: the social work ‘trump cards’ for the digital age  
**Jenny Simpson**, Open University |
| 2.30       | Exploring the privacy behaviours of social media users  
**Dr Nicola Stanley**, Silver Dialogue Ltd |
| 3.00       | Tea / coffee |
| 3.15       | Understanding the ethical implications of social media research  
**Kandy Woodfield**, NSMNSS/NatCen Social Research |
| 3.45       | Ethics Panel discussion |
| 4.15       | Social Media survey results, and concluding comments  
**Simon Haslam**, FMR Research |
| 4.30       | Close |

**Thanks to:**

- NatCen Social Research that works for society
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- **snap surveys**
About the Presentations

• The conference keynote speaker is Dr Farida Vis. Farida will present on two topics at the conference. She will talk about her own researching social media experience with reference to particular projects. Later she will also deliver a skills lab, aimed at developing our technical ability to use social media in a social research context.

• Brian Kelly will speak on ‘Using Social Media To Enhance your Research Activities’, which covers engagement with one’s peers, and dissemination and maximising impact. Brian will summarise the benefits which can be gained from use of social media to support research activities, for example to engage with fellow researchers, meet new collaborators and co-authors and enhance awareness and impact of research papers.

• Gareth Morrell (with Kelsey Beninger and Natalie Jago) will present ‘Are we getting it right? Social media users’ views on social media research’. This session reports on initial findings from a ground-breaking study exploring the views of social media users about privacy, confidentiality and use of their social media data for research purposes. Do Twitter users really care about their tweets being used for social research?

• Dr Nicola Stanley will present ‘Exploring the privacy behaviours of social media users’, based on a survey of online panel respondents. The research explored the context for and reasons why research participants were making their personal and sensitive information available online, and the paper considers how researchers should respond to this recent change in behaviour.

• Claire Meehan will speak on ‘Using social media to investigate young people’s drug use’. Her research found that most young people get their information concerning drugs largely from the media, including the internet and SNS. Analysis of SNS, forums, chatrooms and blogs, together with focus groups, give an in-depth look into drug use knowledge and behaviours.

• Jenny Simpson presents ‘Vulnerability and safeguarding: the social work ‘trump cards’ for the digital age’. This case study looks at the huge impact of the internet and social media on social work with young people. The focus is on ethical issues and dilemmas around monitoring and managing the online behaviour of adolescents.

• Kandy Woodfield will present ‘Understanding the ethical implications of social media research: findings from the New Social Media, New Social Sciences? Network of methodological innovation’. The 400+ research professionals in the NSMNSS network were polled for their views on the quality of ethics guidelines and the value of ethics panels. This paper (written by Kandy and Dr. Janet Salmons) presents the findings of that research.

Roxanne Persaud, our ‘social reporter in residence’ will be tweeting throughout the day from @commutiny and @TheSRAOrg. We encourage you all to Tweet during the conference using the #SRAconf hashtag. Please be aware that photographs from the event will be published online throughout the day and afterwards for publicity purposes; let us know when you arrive if you have any concerns about this.