

Solidarity and Care during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Information Sheet for Contributors

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The ambition behind *Solidarity and Care during the COVID-19 Pandemic* is to produce a collective research archive and dedicated public platform (<https://solidarityandcare.org>). Before taking part, it is important that you understand why we are doing this, and what your participation will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and feel free to get in touch with [the project team](#) if you need any further information.

What is the purpose of the study?

Solidarity and Care During the COVID-19 Pandemic seeks to document and report on the lived experiences and caring strategies of diverse people and groups across the globe during the COVID-19 pandemic. The project is interested in methods of coping with challenges of care specifically related to or exacerbated by the pandemic, as well as how otherwise routine questions of care are affected or thrown into relief by the pandemic. From the experiences and organizing strategies in relation to state institutions of care (e.g. child care, elder care, health care); through those related to independent, community initiatives, to those related to the dynamics of domestic relations the project seeks to bear witness to how the pandemic intervenes in questions of social reproduction and diverse forms of caring labour—physical, emotional, social, affective.

We launched the project in April 2020, and anticipate that the call for contributions to the archive and public platform will remain open until at least 31st December 2020.

Who are the project team and how is the project supported?

The project is supported by the Sociological Review Foundation, a charity registered in England and Wales (charity number 1161961) whose purpose is to advance the education of the public on the subject of sociology and related disciplines. It is overseen by a team drawn from within the Sociological Review, including Professor Beverley Skeggs, Dr Erica Lagalisse and Dr Attila Szanto. You can find out more about The Sociological Review [here](#).

What does it mean to take part?

We are seeking contributions that can be included in the collective research archive and/or shared on our dedicated [public platform](#). Your contribution can take a number of forms as laid out in our call for contributions. By conducting a broad call-out for letters and other creative outputs in informal genres or raw form, our intention is to make participation in project widely accessible to those who lack either the confidence, inclination or resources to contribute polished content for publication.

As a collective research archive, we believe it is important that our contributors maintain copyright over their contributions. In order to make this possible, all contributions will be licensed using [CC-BY-NC-SA licence](#). This means that there is universal understanding that the copyright of the content belongs to the author, but that non-commercial reuse is permitted on the same terms on which it was originally licensed.

If you do decide to contribute to the project, you will also be required to fill in a consent form. If you decide to take part, you are still free to withdraw at any time until 31st December 2020 by contacting [the project team](#).

What are the benefits of taking part?

There are no direct economic benefits to those taking part in the project. By gathering information on both local and global dynamics of care during the time of the pandemic, however, we hope to provide some measure of care as well as research care—we intend for the archive to be a collectively-produced resource where scholars, activists, anyone can share insights, concerns and reflections, both formal and informal, on questions of caring labour during the pandemic, and how to build a better future that centres collective care.

How will my contribution be used?

In the first instance, we would seek your agreement to deposit your contribution in the archive. There will also be opportunities for your contribution to be published on our dedicated website, [Solidarity and Care during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). The public platform makes contributions from the project freely and openly accessible to the public. We also anticipate that contributions to the project may be incorporated into the production of other outputs including articles for online and news media, as well as academic publications, including conference papers. All of the outputs, both public and academic, will be reported through The Sociological Review website.

How will my personal data be kept confidential?

All personal information shared during the submission process will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. Personal data will be kept securely and separately from the archive itself. To maintain anonymity, electronic data files will be stored on an encrypted, password-protected online file server that is accessible only to the research team. The encrypted data will be backed up regularly to a secondary file server. This is to enable the data to be shared between research team members. A local copy of the electronic data files will be stored on an encrypted, password-protected computer, backed up regularly to an encrypted hard drive accessible only to the research.

Will my contribution be anonymous?

We follow standard procedures for granting anonymity to those taking part in the project. However, we recognise that especially for those who wish for their contributions to appear on the website, that waiving anonymity might be preferable. As such, for contributions published on the website, the project team will consult with contributors on a case-by-case basis about the appropriate acknowledgement of authorship.

Who will have access to the research archive and how will data be stored?

The research archive is designed to be a resource that will ultimately help us care better for one another, by enabling important analyses to be shared in diverse research outputs, including a range of materials freely accessible to the public. The archive will be fully anonymised, and will be deposited for reuse in an open data repository after the completion of the project.

For any further details about taking part in the project, or if you are interested in contributing to the project website but do not want your contribution to be included in the research archive, contact the project team at solidarityandcare@thesociologicalreview.com.