Appendix 1

Information Sheet

Title of Research Project

A crisis in democracy? Brexit and the 2017 General Election in an age of Post-Truth

Details of Project

This is a Masters by Research project that investigates the media and the degree to which portrayals of the winning side were accurate according to their voters in the 2017 General Election and the EU Referendum.

You are being asked to participate in this project because the project is particularly focused on young educated people.

Participation in the project involves giving up no more than 2 hours of your time to complete a Q-sort and a very short qualitative questionnaire. Q-Methodology begins with a series of statements (a concourse) that you will be asked to rank for your agreement. The concourse will be derived from statements collected from the media. You will rank by what is known as a forced distribution. In a Q-sort, there are few options at the extremes of the agreement and disagreement scale, and the most options in the middle of a 9-11 point scale. The width of the scale and depth of the sorting grid can only be determined once a full picture of the concourse has emerged (after completing analysis of the media). Respondents’ complete sets of answers are subject to a factor analysis in which the individuals’ answers not the individuals themselves are treated as factors. The resultant factors are said to represent complete views (Stenner and Watts 2012).

Contact Details

For further information about the research data please contact:

Name: Stephen Williams
Email: sw488@exeter.ac.uk

If you have concerns/questions about the research you would like to discuss with someone else at the University, please contact my PhD supervisor:

Name: Professor Clare Saunders
Email. c.saunders@exeter.ac.uk
Consent

I have been fully informed about the aims and purposes of the project.
I understand that:

- there is no compulsion for me to participate in this research project and, if I do choose to participate, I may withdraw at any stage;
- I have the right to refuse permission for the publication of any information about me;
- any information which I give will be used solely for the purposes of this research project, which may include publications or academic conference or seminar presentations;
- all information I give will be treated as confidential;

The researcher will make every effort to preserve my anonymity.

(Signature of participant)  (Date)

(Printed name of participant)

(Signature of researcher)  (Signature of researcher)

One copy of this form will be kept by the participant; a second copy will be kept by the researcher(s).
Your contact details are kept separately from your interview data.

Data Protection Notice
“Data Protection Notice - The information you provide will be used for research purposes and your personal data will be processed in accordance with current data protection legislation and the University's notification lodged at the Information Commissioner’s Office. Your personal data will be treated in the strictest confidence and will not be disclosed to any unauthorised third parties. The results of the research will be published in anonymised form. Names and personal details will not be stored for any time period longer than the completion of the research. These will be stored on an excel spreadsheet that will be encrypted. Paper copies such as this form will be kept only as long as is necessary under current legislation. The highest security will be used when this data is collected and access will be limited as far as is legally allowable solely to the researcher.