



Commons-based models of cultural production

QUT Ethics Approval Number 1200000703

RESEARCH TEAM

Principal Researcher: Dr Nicolas Suzor – Faculty of Law – Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

DESCRIPTION

This interview is part of a research project overseen by Dr Nicolas Suzor. The purpose of this project is to investigate the conditions for successful collective action in the production of information goods. We are interested in how institutions and communities can develop to coordinate cultural production in various fields, including open access, free software, knowledge commons, and open hardware development.

You are invited to participate in this project because of your involvement in a commons-based project.

PARTICIPATION

Your participation will involve an audio recorded interview at QUT or other agreed location that will take approximately 30-45 minutes of your time. Questions will include discussions of the strategies for encouraging successful cooperation in commons projects, the challenges these projects face, and the processes of negotiation and development of mutually acceptable norms that enable cooperation.

Your participation in this project is entirely voluntary. If you do agree to participate you can withdraw from the project without comment or penalty. If you withdraw, on request any identifiable information already obtained from you will be destroyed. Your decision to participate or not participate will in no way impact upon your current or future relationship with QUT.

EXPECTED BENEFITS

It is expected that this project will not benefit you directly. However, it may provide greater understanding of commons-based models of cultural production and help inform copyright policy that provides appropriate support to these models.

RISKS

There are minimal risks associated with your participation in this project. These include the risk that you might say or do something that other people might be critical of, or say something critical of other people or their perspectives. There is also a minor risk that you may inadvertently disclose some commercial-in-confidence information during the interview. In order to mitigate these risks, we will provide a transcript of the interview in order to allow you to review and retract any statements made during the interview. You will only be able to withdraw statements up until the point where the information is published.

PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

We will generally only utilise your first name to attribute your comments in any publications. If you request we will use a pseudonym to disguise your identity. Please note that in some circumstances however, persons familiar with the project in which you are involved may be able to discover your identity through your comments and any description of the project. Audio from your interview will be recorded. This audio may be transcribed by external contractors under a confidentiality agreement and will not otherwise be disclosed to any person outside of the research team. You will have the ability to verify your comments and responses prior to final inclusion in the research project.

Please note that data collected in this project may be used in future research projects. If you choose to allow an edited transcript of your interview to be made open access, it will be available for viewing and reuse by other researchers and members of the general public. We are unable to predict the uses your data may be put to by others, and acknowledge that in some cases, it may be used for purposes that are unexpected or, potentially, undesirable from your perspective.

We believe that open access to research data is important to enhance the transparency and verifiability of research, as well as to increase the efficiency and potential for innovative reuse of data collected through public funds. However, we also strongly believe that you have a right to control how data collected about you is used and disclosed. Accordingly, you are under no obligation to allow your edited interview transcript to be made publicly available. If you choose to do so, you will have an opportunity to review your transcript first, retract any statements you wish, and, where possible, elect to have your interview de-identified to protect your privacy.

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE

We would like to ask you to sign a written consent form (enclosed) to confirm your agreement to participate. We also ask that you consent to you and your organisation being identified.

QUESTIONS / FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT

If have any questions or require further information please contact the research team supervisor below:

Dr Nicolas Suzor <n.suzor@qut.edu.au> +61 7 3138 8280

CONCERNS / COMPLAINTS REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF THE PROJECT

QUT is committed to research integrity and the ethical conduct of research projects. However, if you do have any concerns or complaints about the ethical conduct of the project you may contact the QUT Research Ethics Unit on + 617 3138 5123 or email ethicscontact@qut.edu.au. The QUT Research Ethics Unit is not connected with the research project and can facilitate a resolution to your concern in an impartial manner.

Thank you for helping with this research project. Please keep this sheet for your information.



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RESEARCH TEAM CONTACTS

Dr Nicolas Suzor – QUT School of Law – +61 7 3138 8280 – n.suzor@qut.edu.au

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

By signing below, you are indicating that you:

- Have read and understood the information document regarding this project.
- Have had any questions answered to your satisfaction.
- Understand that if you have any additional questions you can contact the research team.
- Understand that you are free to withdraw at any time, without comment or penalty.
- Understand that you can contact the Research Ethics Unit on +61 7 3138 5123 or email ethicscontact@qut.edu.au if you have concerns about the ethical conduct of the project.
- Understand that data collected in this project may be used as comparative data in future projects.
- Understand that the project will include an audio recording.
- Agree to participate in the project.

I **do not consent** to an edited transcript of my interview to be **made publicly available for open access** by other researchers and the public for potential use in future research or for other unknown purposes.

I want my transcript to be de-identified, where possible, to hide my identity and remove other potentially identifying statements.

Name

Signature

Date

Please return this sheet to the investigator.