**Human Data Interaction: Legibility, Agency, Negotiability project: Public trust and understanding of online content moderation, and its impacts on public discourse**

Funds for this study were awarded from the EPSRC funded ‘Human Data Interaction: Legibility, Agency, Negotiability project’ and administrated by the Computing Science department at the University of Glasgow. The EPSRC grant number is: EP/R045178/1

The research study included two elements:

**Survey of moderators on the Reddit platform**

**Survey design and recruitment:** The online survey was open from July to October 2019.

* Respondents were recruited by self-selection and snowball sampling. First, we used the subreddit List service to identify 500 of the most popular subreddits and then messaged individual moderators via Reddit. We later bolstered the sample by posting the survey link to the subreddits r/samplesize and r/needamod on the suggestion of existing participants, The final sample was 218.
* The survey consisted of both multiple choice and open-ended questions, 11 question in all, asking about moderation activity including frequency and type of intervention, reason for interventions and perceptions of the moderator role.
* The spreadsheet includes all responses to the survey data.

**Focus groups with moderators and social media users**

**Recruitment and sampling:** We recruited four focus groups (two with moderators and two with social media users) and one dialogue workshop combining social media users and moderators, all with 4-5 respondents in each Field work took place from November 2019 to February 2020.

* We recruited one group of Reddit moderators via the survey. For the other moderator group, we approached a large organisation which hosts social media communities via the major platforms (primarily Facebook).
* Participants were aged between 18-25, mixed gender and active on social media platforms. The dialogue workshop was composed of participants from the Reddit moderator group and representatives from the two user groups.
* The overall sample size was 17 respondents with 4 returning for the workshop a few months later.
* Data was transcribed by a market research company, and includes the transcriptions from all 5 groups held.
* The focus groups were held between September 2019 and March 2020.

The project was approved by the ethics committee in the School of Social and Political Sciences. Consent did not include public access to the data but did include consent for anonymised data usage for academic publications.