README FILE - Dataset for: The Contribution of Informal Learning to Spiritual Development in Later Life

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This dataset supports the thesis entitled ‘The Contribution of Informal Learning to Spiritual Development in Later Life’.

AWARDED B: University of Southampton

DATE OF AWARD: June 2020

DESCRIPTION OF THE DATA

This dataset contains transcripts of 3 focus group discussions and 23 individual interviews, representing encounters with participants of an average 1hour 20mins. These were audio-recorded and transcribed by the researcher and analysed using NVivo (v11) software. Thematic and narrative analysis was carried out. The participants were older adults, living independently in the community, aged 60-92, recruited by local fliers in venues likely to attract those with an interest in spirituality (both religious and non-religious).

Interview transcripts:

These transcripts (23) are of individual interviews conducted as part of doctoral research and towards thesis 'The Contribution of Informal Learning to Spiritual Development in Later Life'. Average length of interview was 1hour 20mins.

Focus group discussion transcripts:

Transcripts of 3 focus groups that were held prior to individual interviews, in order to generate themes and wording of appropriate questions for subsequent research phase interview guide. Format edited to be NVivo compliant, to facilitate searching of text by participant name, by question etc.

Audio Recordings:

Audio recordings of individual interviews concerning informal learning on spirituality and its expression in later life; data from doctoral research and towards thesis 'The Contribution of Informal Learning to Spiritual Development in Later Life'. Three sets of files (together totalling 23 participants) collected from September 2017 to February 2018.

Case Memos:

Further text files of field notes are included, containing the researcher’s developing thoughts at the time of interviews, and subsequently on transcription. These therefore include material on methodology, reflexivity and the analytical process. Created to make use of NVivo software 'memo' facility for storing ongoing data and its analysis at all stages of research.

Participant\_Information:

Participant Information Sheet (PIS) which describes the project and invites participation; Consent Form, which participants subsequently sign if they agree to participate; Pre-interview briefing, which indicates the nature of the interview experience. ERGO approval reference numbers for these documents are supplied.

Individual Interview Guide:

Used by the researcher to conduct semi-structured interviews, but not shared with participants. This had been constructed using ideas gained from focus group discussions.

Date of data collection:

Focus Group Discussion (FGD) data was collected in July-August 2016. Individual Interview (II) data was collected between September 2017 and February 2018.

Geographic location:

All data were collected / generated in Southern UK. FGD material came from SE Hampshire, W Sussex and Surrey. II material came from SE Hampshire and W Sussex.

Dataset file created November 2020