

Comp J

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Describe global perspectives on effective information practices that are supportive of cultural, economic or social well-being.

Interpretation

Our standards may apply to a significant group of individuals around the world, but they are not the only ones held in a high standard. We have talked significantly in this field about the life cycle of records which is a standard that we follow in the United States. We also have talked about the record continuum model which is used in Australia. Those standards have very different methods on how records are supposed to be, but strangely enough the given standards are not followed everywhere. There are other standards besides our own that have significant value and we cannot ignore those standards. The reasoning for this is the sole idea that these standards may have based theirs based on ours and vice versa. Ignoring other standards and trying to stay to one is a conservative viewpoint that halts progress. Change is the only constant and trying to halt is dangerous especially when it can provide us with knowledge. Eventually there will be a globally unified standard of recordkeeping and management of data, but we still have a significant amount of progress to make in order to get there.

Another consideration when analyzing global archival perspectives is the growth of files in digital formats rather than physical formats. The most influential global policies in information management and recordkeeping will be focusing on the latest technology advances in software. While some countries have more advanced technologies than other countries, that does not guarantee that they will be using the technology to its fullest potential. America has some of the most advanced medicine and medical practices in the world, but because of pharmaceutical corporate influence and outdated database management, it is a miracle our healthcare system has not fallen apart yet. The governments and corporations in the United Kingdoms have been making changes with their IG policies because of the Data Protection Act that went into place in 2018. Essentially this act has given citizens the right to know

what their personal information that has been used by the government and organizations (Gov.uk, 2020). It is a significant measure to take in an age where everyone's information that was once private is now publicly available on social media platforms: A personal enemy of mine.

Evidence

Mara 211: How Mainland China's Archival Policy Challenges Western Policy

This paper primarily speaks about the policy differences between China and western policies. China has rapidly evolved their record standards post WWII and has been focusing primarily on improving their data gathering process since then. They have successfully intermixed their political ambitions with cultural revolution and convinced their audience that they indeed have a say in what their government does. To some extent that is true if you follow China's standards for being a model citizen. There are some commonalities between our standards and theirs such as the rate at which information is received through social media. We have community feedback for information received while China retains information based primarily on collective value over individual value.

Mara 211: Discussion 9

This discussion primarily talks about how archivists are represented in popular media today. I was rather fond of this discussion mostly because popular culture did for a long time put us in a negative light. Two movies that I was aware of that made reference to archivists rather reluctant to perform their duties was a clip from the *Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring* where a castle archivist led Gandalf (played by Sir Ian McKellen) to an abandoned pile of papers and *The Pelican Brief* where Darby (played by Julia Roberts) is led by an archivist who seems careless about her looking through the documents. While I agree that Hollywood either glorifies or undervalues the professions they portray, learning about this

strengthened my determination to place more effort into the field of reference archivists, because I do not want to give Hollywood more fuel to continue their inaccurate portrayal.

Mara 211: Afrobarometer

The Afrobarometer is a surveying tool used to analyze data about political, community and societal opinions based on a series of questions asked by independent survey groups. In this specific survey, I was looking for South Africa's general opinion of democracy because I had a personal interest in examining their viewpoint of the given ideology. While it is not a perfect system, it does give an idea of what the population is thinking about. Surveying data is essential because it does give us information on how to effectively communicate with our neighbors and improve their quality of life even if it is just an estimation.

Conclusion

It is essential to know what your community thinks about the information being shared and stored. As the global community begins to merge, we must consider what principles we give and take when it comes to data collection and management. It is relevant to hear what the population has to say about their information being handled by institutions of private and academic standings. Collectivism itself is not entirely bad in moderation, but like any policy or philosophy an extreme measure in either can be detrimental to the profession supporting it. This applies specifically for an archivist who is tasked with managing information and ensuring that information is properly retained.