

Rethinking Data Sharing and Human Participant Protection in Social Science Research

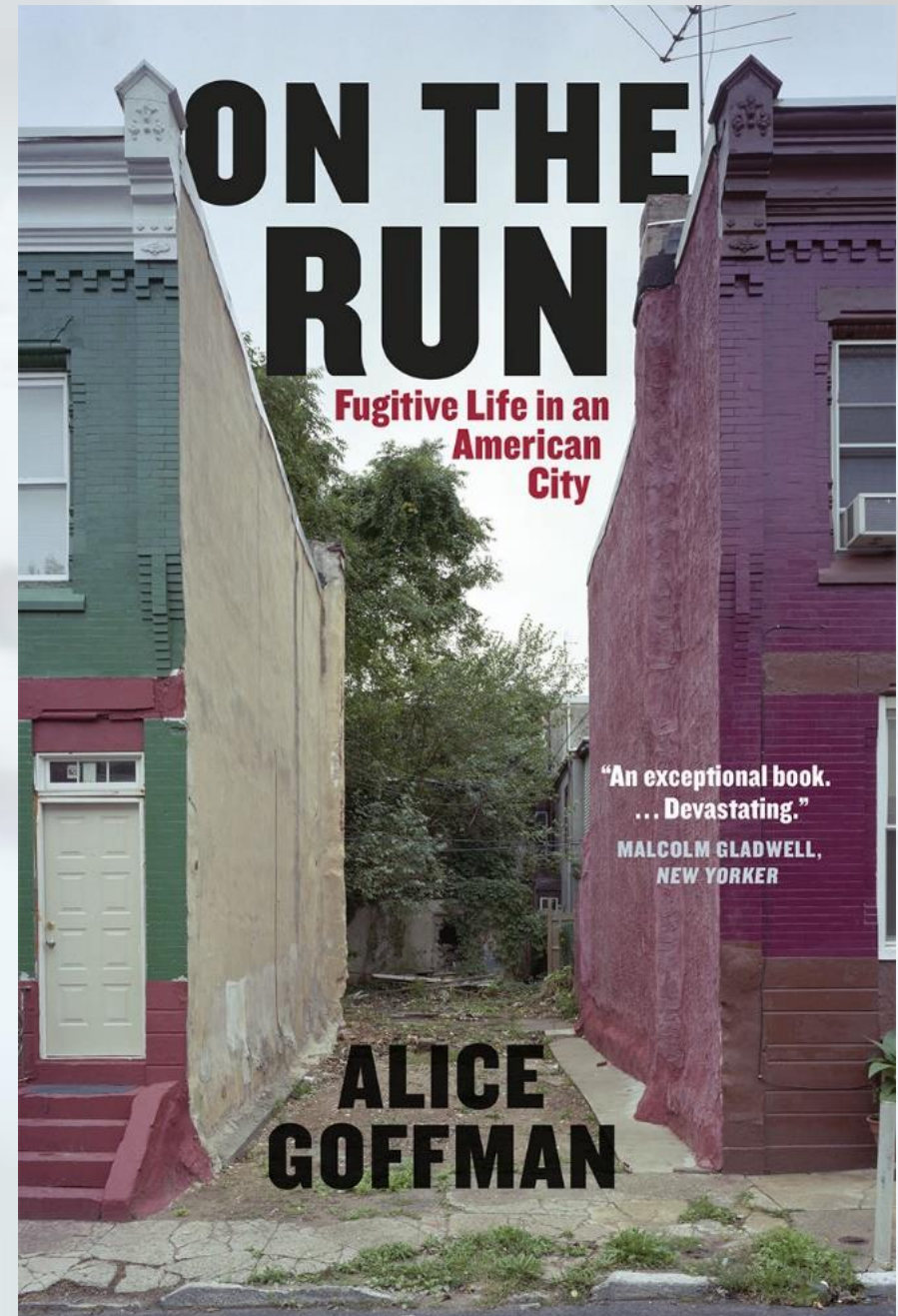
Applications from the Qualitative Realm

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Denver

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Qualitative Data Repository, Syracuse University

No Way to Share?

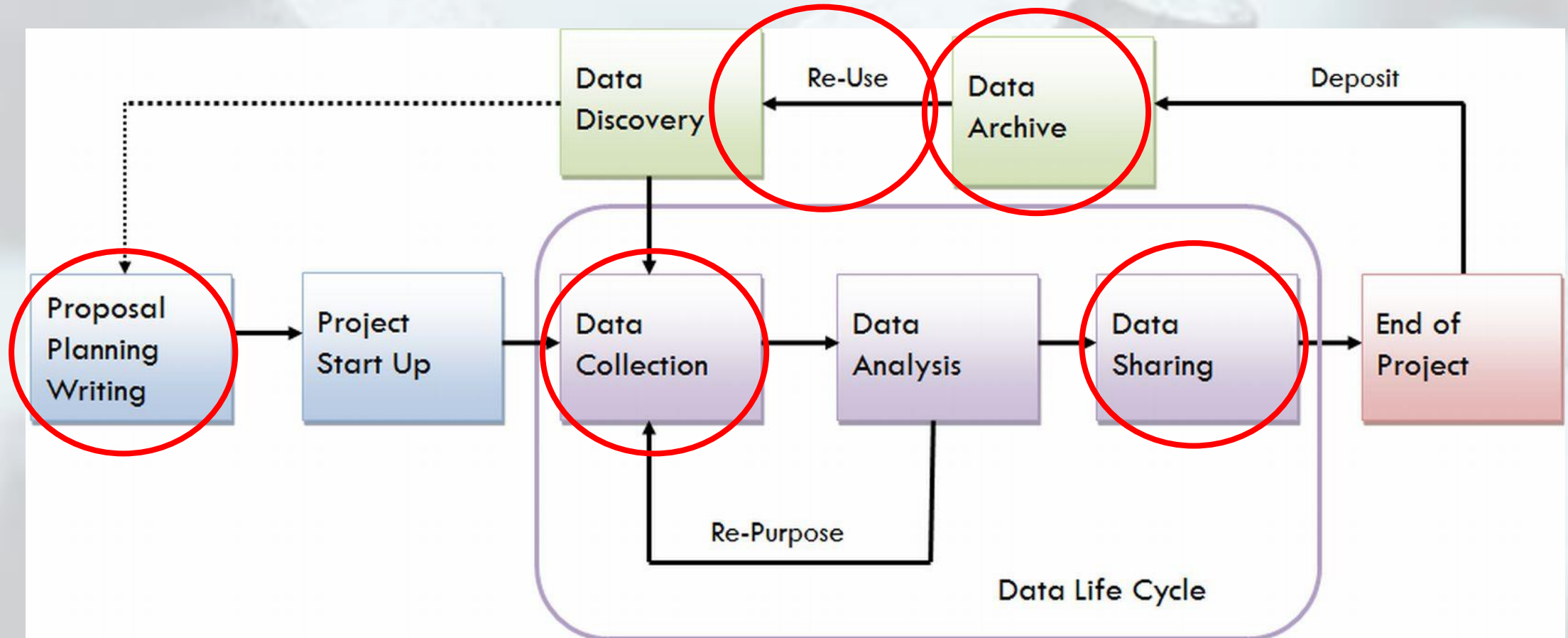
All those records had now been burned: Even before the controversy began, Goffman felt as though their ritual incineration was the only way she could protect her friend—informers from police scrutiny after her book was published (Lewis-Kraus, 2016).



Qualitative Data Repository

- Qualitative social science data
- Online since 2014
- Basis for this paper
 - ~20 pilot studies & further consultation with researchers
 - Teaching qualitative data management
 - QDR workshop on sharing sensitive data (May 2016)

Data Management for Sharing



Planning

- Collecting identifying information
 - Avoid where unnecessary
 - Always: Keep identifying info separate
- Informed consent
 - Careful with restriction in consent script
 - Oral vs. written consent
 - Cultural context
 - Ask about sharing explicitly

Collecting Data: Active Consent

- Keep open dialog with participants
- Use participants' local knowledge
- Negotiate conflicting interests in data publication
- With some communities: Ownership/control of data

Publishing: Quantitative vs. Qualitative Techniques

- Quantitative: Technical solutions (differential privacy, masking, synthetic data, multi-party computing)
- Manual anonymization: local knowledge

Entrevistador: ¿Y en qué barrio pensás, digamos, cuando, vos en qué barrio..?

Entrevistada: Bueno, yo soy BARRIO 1 y BARRIO 2. BARRIO 2 y BARRIO 1.

Entrevistador: Y, digamos, si tuvieras que, de esos referentes que conocés de diferentes partidos, dar un número, ¿te animás a dar un número, cuántos son?

Entrevistada: Y, son unos cuantos, son muchos eh, yo entiendo que son más de cincuenta

Entrevistador: Bueno, cincuenta me parece...

Entrevistada: Te digo, por ejemplo, en MUNICIPIO 1 hay [detalla el número] bibliotecas populares, reconocidas por la CONABIP, que es una institución nacional que las agrupa y

Publishing: Access Controls

Safe Qualitative Data

Safe Quantitative Data



A Cautionary Tale

Earlier that day, I'd taken a train from New York to Philadelphia because I wanted to track down at least one of Goffman's subjects, and I was pretty sure I had figured out where some of Chuck's surviving family lived.

[Jesse Singal in NY Mag](#)

She acknowledges a variety of errors and inconsistencies, mostly the results of a belabored anonymization process, but otherwise

[Gideon Lewis-Kraus in the NY Times](#)

