C-SAP Project – Final Report
Research Findings and Debates: Capturing and sharing research on-line (28 July 2011)

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This project ran from January – July 2011 and has involved:

- Identifying key topics and issues where new research has recently been published and has direct relevant to policy and practice concerns
- Recruiting participants willing to be recorded talking about their recent research and contemporary crime and justice issues
- Recording, editing and producing five research soundbite recordings (a further 4 were completed prior to the C-SAP funding by the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research and included in the collection)
- Recording, editing and producing three research discussion recordings
- Creating a crime and justice collection webspace - http://www.iriss.org.uk/crime-and-justice-research-collection
- Promoting the collection via direct emails, including details on newsletters, via twitter and facebook accounts of the partners
- Producing 1000 postcards promoting the crime and justice collection. These were distributed to 180 known contacts, 20 copies were provided to all contributors to disseminate through their channels and 400 copies have been distribution to all modern studies teachers in Scotland. The remainder will be disseminated at events and meetings.
- Collating the statistics available about the number of times the collection

Project Outputs

The crime and justice collection is available here- http://www.iriss.org.uk/crime-and-justice-research-collection, and a screenshot of the collection is shown below.

There are two types of recordings which have been undertaken for this project. The first are 'research soundbites' which are short clips about recent or forthcoming research. The other type of recording being undertaken for this project focus on key issues relating to crime and justice, and discuss the implications of research related to these issues – these are 'research discussions' and involve a small number of people coming together to discuss these issues..

This following recordings are included in the collection:

- Women's imprisonment - is there a better way?
- Football related violence in Scotland *(to be made available on 29 July 2011)**
- Culture, change and community justice
- Making the transition: Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Criminal justice and utopias
- Diversion from prosecution to social work
- Criminal justice in Scotland
- Sectarianism, racism and hate crime
- Counterfeiting as corporate externality
- Desistance research and probation practice
- Influencing trust and confidence in the London Metropolitan Police
- Public criminology: academics engaging with public life
- User views of punishment
- Young runaways

* This availability of this recording was delayed because we needed to await the publication of the by the Scottish Government.

The postcard promoting the collection has been sent to a wide variety of stakeholders across higher education, further education, secondary education and criminal justice social work.

crime and justice
research recordings collection

Football violence
Female imprisonment
Young runaways
Academic engagement with the public
Community justice culture
Sectarianism
Change
Desistance
Police
Confidence
User views of punishment

www.sccjr.ac.uk/crime-and-justice-research-collection

In addition the crime and justice collection has been promoted via a range of newsletters, mailing lists, through social media channels and flagged up on various websites. For instance, http://www.facebook.com/theSCCJR, American Society of Criminology, European Society of Criminology, SCCJR's and IRISS's mailing lists.

Evaluation of Usage

Due to delays in completing the recordings, which were primarily due to participant drop outs, the timing of the Scottish election (which increased sensitivity about participation in recordings for policy makers) the research recording collection page went live on 28 June 2011, with postcards and promotion activity undertaken in July 2011.   Therefore, it is early days in terms of evaluating the use of the resource, and usage is expected to be relatively low in the summer months particularly due to students at all levels being on holiday. However, to date we have the following information about usage:

- The crime and justice collection had 674 pageviews between 28 June – 28 July
- The majority of visitors to the collection came directly via a link to the page (414), however, 103 visitors visited the page after doing a google search, with the remainder visited from a range of related websites (primarily from recording participant's organisational websites, twitter accounts and mailing lists)

- Over half of visitors to the collection were from Scotland, indicating that the resource could potentially benefit from further promotion south of the border.

Some of the recordings have been available before the crime and justice page was created, and the recordings can be accessed independently of the crime and justice collection webpage. Therefore, there has been a greater number of people who have watched or listened to the recordings than visited the main collection page. The number of visitors for each recording are listed below. However, these recordings have been available for different lengths of time so it is not possible to compare the popularity of different recordings based on these figures.

Number of times video clips have been watched

Women's imprisonment - is there a better way	51 watches
Football related violence in Scotland	*(to be made available on 29 July 2011)*
Culture, change and community justice	82 watches
Making the transition: Bosnia and Herzegovina	51 watches
Criminal justice and utopias	42 watches
Diversion from prosecution to social work	64 watches
Criminal justice in Scotland	56 watches
Sectarianism, racism and hate crime	38 watches
Counterfeiting as corporate externality	55 watches
Desistance research and probation practice	147 watches
Influencing trust and confidence in the London Metropolitan Police	132 watches

It is more difficult to calculate the number of times podcasts have been played, because they are accessed through a variety of channels (Itunes, RSS feed and the IRISS website). We do not have information about how many people listened to the podcast via the itunes channel, and we cannot know that those who visited the relevant podcast webpage actually played the recording. However, we can confirm the number of people who have viewed the pages for each recording is as follows:

Number of times webpage for each podcast has been viewed

Public criminology   172 pageviews & 162 downloads

User views of punishment   93 pageviews

Young runaways   106 pageviews

Feedback

The modern studies association have been very positive about the usefulness of the resource, and are adding an article about the resource in their next newsletter. Additionally, they are sending postcards about the collection to all modern studies teachers in Scotland in their September mailing, to highlight how this resource can be used in their teaching. To date no feedback has been received from undergraduate lecturers, but efforts have been made to promote the resource amongst this community to ensure that they are aware of the recordings when planning their courses for the forthcoming academic year. The contributors involved in the recordings have provided positive feedback about the usefulness of the resource, and one contributor made the useful observation that the date of the recordings were not on all the recordings, and so this has been rectified. In late July a link was been added to the collection page to enable visitors to provide feedback about the resource but to date no feedback has been received via this mechanism.

The Lessons for Us

- Producing videos rather than podcasts requires considerably more work, and there is no evidence to suggest they are more useful (though the statistics available about the podcasts limit our ability to clearly identify this)
- It was extremely difficult to secure involvement in the recordings by policy makers, particularly due to the fact that much of the recording was taking place prior to the Scottish election (thus increasing the sensitivity of this)
- Although the plan was to focus on broad issues, such as What is crime? or Why do people commit crime?, it was easier to secure involvement from people based on their current research findings or publications, which were not always linked to these broader issues
- Sending postcards to contributors and asking them to promote the crime and justice collection and the recordings in which they took part was a useful mechanism of ensuring we capitalised on a broad range of networks which no one individual would have access to (as evidenced by the range of organisational websites from which visitors to the collection derive)