

Dilemma 1: What is informed consent?

One afternoon in a Museum Outreach Office. A heated discussion breaks out about the digital story project's consent forms. One digital story facilitator always gets their participants to fill out the consent form on the first day – after they know about the project but before they start making the films.

Another never does this. They prefer to wait until people know how the film has turned out. That, they say, is what makes consent informed.

But, counters the other, the stories are publically funded and for collection and display – isn't it best they develop their story with this in mind.

You are all in the office too... what do you say?

Dilemma 2: Is it *still* your story?

The consent and copyright form has been signed. The story has been accessioned. The form clearly states that the story can be used in the museum displays. A curator wants to use your story for a forthcoming temporary exhibition on your city's history.

Should they contact you?

Are there contexts where contacting you would be more necessary (e.g. if the exhibition might be controversial)?

If you think they should contact you in principle, what then happens if they can't (e.g. you've moved house and not let them know)?

For how many years, should the museum feel this responsibility to contact you?

Dilemma 3: Who is the story for?

You are facilitating a digital story workshop. One member of the group is scanning in some more blurred photographs. They have already started to make their film with 1980s style transitions between the photos. A strong part of you wants to respect their choices. It's their story after all. Yet other thoughts are nagging you. Will they feel embarrassed to see it on a big screen? Will it be usable in any future exhibitions?

There's still 6 hours of workshop time left. What would you do?

Dilemma 4: Is it just *your* story?

You have come to the group with a suggested theme – ‘music’. Most of the group are excited by the theme and immediately start swapping memories. However, one member of the group pulls you to one side and says that they would prefer to make a story about their experiences of having a learning disability.

How do you respond?