Using Qualitative Data in your Postgraduate Research

Maureen Haaker UK Data Service

12 April 2017 Webinar





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Overview

- What is the UK Data Service?
- Finding and accessing data
- Using student resources
- Case Study: April Gallwey
- Questions?







What is the UK Data Service?

- a comprehensive resource funded by the ESRC
- a single point of access to a wide range of secondary social science data
- support, training and guidance





Who is it for?

- Academic researchers and students
- Government analysts
- Charities and foundations
- Business consultants
- Independent research centres
- Think tanks





UK Data Service





Types of data collections

- Survey microdata
 - Cross-sectional
 - Panel / Longitudinal
- Aggregate statistics
 - International macrodata
- Census data
 - Aggregate data for 1971 -2011
 - Microdata for 1991, 2001 and 2011
- Qualitative and mixed methods data



Sources of data

- Official agencies mainly central government
- International statistical time series
- Research institutions
- Individual academics research grants
- Market research agencies
- Public records/historical sources





Find data: Key data and search in *Discover*

bank

Type

Date

Subject

Data type

Qualitative and

data (58)

(559)

(106)

Cross-national

survey data (52)

Time series (45)

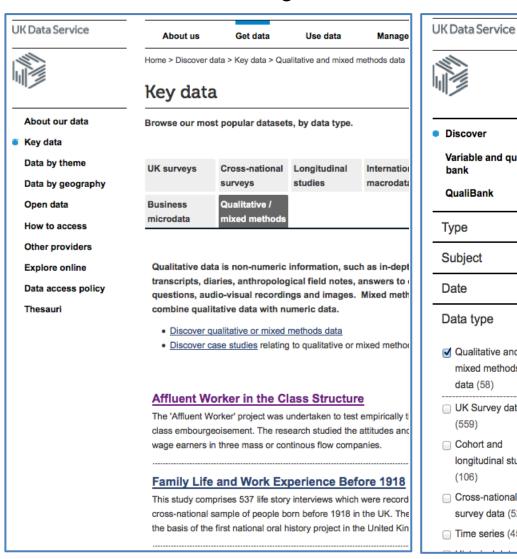
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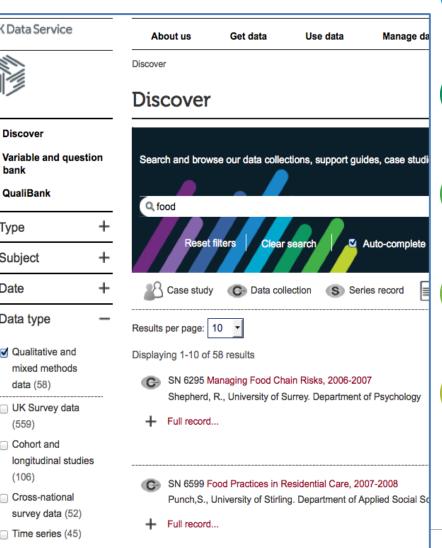
mixed methods

UK Survey data

longitudinal studies

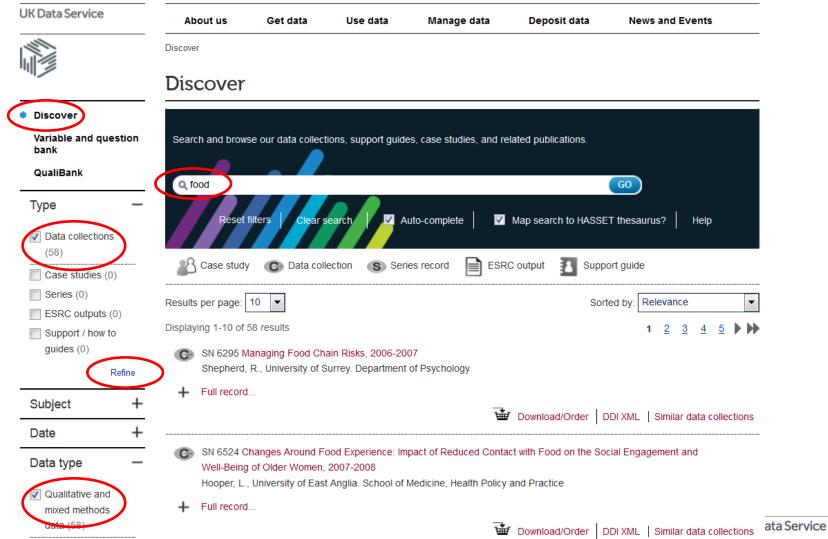
QualiBank







Discover - conducting a search





Data access

- Web access to data and metadata.
- Data are freely available to anyone who registers with the UK Data Service (dependent on licence).
- Data supplied in a variety of formats
 - statistical package formats (e.g. SPSS, Stata)
 - databases and spreadsheets
 - word processed documents, PDF documents etc.



Data access

- If you are at a UK University, you can use your own institutional username and password to log in and register with the UK Data Service.
- If you are not at a UK University you will have to <u>apply</u> for a UK Data Archive username and password.



Accessing data - registration

- Click on the 'login' link on the UK Data Service homepage
- Click on 'login to the UK Data Service'
- Find your University (or UK Data Archive) in the list of institutions and proceed to the login page
- Enter your login details
- Complete the registration form as a new user
- Accept the End User Licence
- Use the download/order link for the dataset you wish to access and create a project description
- Download the data in your chosen format



How to download data

http://ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/how-to-access/downloadorder.aspx

Download and	Order Special	Order ONS	Order data from	Controlled data
order	Licence data	Special Licence data	non-UK archive	

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To download/order data:

- 1. locate the data collection you require using Discover
- 2. click the 'Download/Order' option for the data collection required
- 3. register a new use of the data, or choose from any previously registered usages
- 4. enter a short summary describing your intended use of the data
- 5. click 'Add datasets' and the selected data collection will be added to your usage
- agree any special conditions associated with the selected datasets. These will appear in the 'Status' column
- 7. click 'Download' and accept the EUL reminder
- select the download format required and the download will begin. Note that where the format option is 'Other', format guidance is usually given within the zip file name, for example, SAS

Some data collections are not available for immediate download, and you will need to order the data. To do this, check the 'Other media' box and follow the online instructions.

View our video tutorial on how to download UK survey data.





How do you re-use qualitative data?

- Description
 - Literature review with data
 - See more data, not limited to published extracts
- Research design and methodological advancement
 - Study sampling, data collection methods, topics guides
 - Compare original interview schedule questions actually asked in the interview
- Reanalysis asking a research question very different to the original research
 - Very different comparative keyword analysis of illness narratives Seale and Charteris-Black (2008)
 - "Similar" topics, but with different focus (Bornat et al. 2012)
- Re-study (Crow and Lyon 2011)
- Learning and Teaching (Haynes and Jones 2012)



Student Resources

UK Data Service



Advice and training

Guides

Video tutorials

Data in use

Citing data

Secure Lab

Teaching with data

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 Teaching resources Ideas for teaching

Student resources

Secondary analysis

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Teaching resources

This section provides practical information, exemplars, and tips for using data in teaching, including ideas for using data in teaching, practical advice on sharing data with students, teaching resources and teaching case studies.

Quantitative resources

Qualitative/ mixed methods resources

Discover teaching datasets

Making your own teaching data

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Qualitative teaching resources

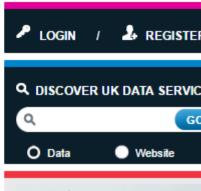
The Last Refuge

This teaching resource incorporates a selection of the qualitative material collected during the course of the Peter Townsend's 1950s Last Refuge study, which was a major investigation of long-stay institutional care for old people in Britain.

Pioneers of qualitative research

Pioneers offers an insight into the backgrounds of researchers, motivations for undertaking particular pieces of research and some interesting observations about studying sociology in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. A series of interviews were carried out with the pioneering researchers themselves and excerpts are available through Pioneers. This resource contains a series of teaching worksheets which

Please be aware that from 15.00 BST on Tuesday 18 April users m experience difficulties logging in t the UK Data Service, including UKDS.stat and Census related services. This is because of work being undertaken to upgrade our technical infrastructure. Any acce issues should be of short duration and we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.





Types of Teaching Resources

- Resources which explore specific collections (e.g. "The Last Refuge" or "Mods and Rockers")
- Resources which explore specific methods or methodological issues (e.g. interviewing styles, sampling, or psychosocial approaches)
- Thematic guides





Folk devils and moral panics

Interview methods

Non-interview methods

The Last Refuge

Psychosocial approaches

Sociology

BCS70 Malaise Inventory

Pioneers

Folk devils and moral panics

Using this resource

Background

Folk devils

Perspectives

Thinking beyond

References

"The media sensationalised the events"



The riots The Mods and Activity Stop One Activity Stop Two Rockers

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The riots

On Easter bank holiday in 1964 in Clacton-on Sea thousands of young people from the mods and from the rockers gangs descended on Clacton beach.

In amongst the groups there were a few minor disturbances with some of the beach huts being damaged



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Unstructured interviews

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Qualitative interviews

Ethical reuse

Structured interviews

Semi-structured interviews

Unstructured interviews

Feminist interviews

Life story interviews

Oral history

Psychosocial interviews

Teaching activities

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Non-interview methods

The Last Refuge

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Sociology

"Not simply answering the questions posed by the interviewer"



Introduction

Interview method notes

Interview extract one



In unstructured interviews respondents are seen to have their own agency, selfhood, and thus are not simply 'respondents' answering the questions posed by the interviewer.

The interview style is generally unstructured and interviewees have the freedom to tell their biographical stories in their own way, although there may be some gentle guidance offered by the interviewer in order to keep the narrative going.

The method has some overlap with the semi-structured interview, in that the interviewer may have a very simple schedule, but in the unstructured interviews that may not be strictly followed.

In the unstructured interview the interviewee is treated as an active subject, and not merely a reporter of facts or experiences.

Service

Interview with Janet

B: Can you tell me about yourself, whatever you like and you can start wherever you like,

J: Well I am a 40, nearly 41 years old. I am a housewife. I've got three children I have been married for twenty years. I've got, I do a little bit of hairdressing to keep my hand in. but I spend a lot of my time in the house I suppose I like to keep on top of things and that is my, that is my main thing, having three children life is quite busy. I have got a couple of interests, uh I go belly dancing which I thoroughly enjoy. Its more of a social event, you know just to get you out of the house more than anything, but its something, a bit of exercise with a bit of fun attached to it. I am not one for going, I don't mind going to the gym but I prefer going to aerobics and that sort of thing. It is just no fun to me. It has got to be a bit light hearted then, you know a bit of fun. I can't say I have got any hobbies as such because I haven't but life in general just ticks along [laughs] from one week to the next. I was born in Treglar, I am a welsh girl, or I see myself as a welsh girl, my family were born in Treglar so they all originate from there, I was the one who was left out. That's how I always look at it. I was the one who was born up here. That is my home down there, if we go to visit, as you get to steel works in Treglar and then you have got the mountains that's when I [gasp/sigh] you know I am home again. I have spent so much time down there as a young girl sort of during the school holidays, I was always not so much shipped off, but my mum was working and you know we used to go down there for six weeks, during the holidays and spend a lot of time with my cousins and you know it is, it is like another home for me and I thoroughly enjoyed it down there. I love it as a place now. But unfortunately my husband won't up and move, but property is cheaper down there and you know people go on about ooh you know the steel works and all the smell and all the rest of it, but life in general down there is just so different. The children seem to have more opportunities, they have got more about down there for them you know, cinemas on your doorstep and they have got a shopping centre down there which is marvellous you know. When I look at Chinnerton, and I think well we are a big place and we are getting bigger, but the town is just a town, although it is a town it has got a large inside shopping centre and it has got everything there you know, for kids of all age groups and their needs you know and I just think people knock the place but I think they have got far more down there than we have up here, for everybody, but like I said I would, I would like to move down there but I wouldn't like to leave my mum now really although it is only an hour down the road sort of thing, but I wouldn't like to go I suppose. Perhaps years ago maybe, or if my mum would say yeah she'd go down there maybe it would be different. No I just think they

A: OK . it's . recording

B: OK . [xxx]

A: the interview is divided into parts the first part is just a way for us to gather general . opinions on GM . and the second part of the interview is a text . produced by the University and we would like to . get your . reactions to reading the first /three/ . paragraphs

B: /OK/

A: OK . can I ask you . as the first question what's your . what's your interpretation what is in your opinion the . what is behind the public response to GM in Britain?

B:(6) mistrust . I think . of .(5) organisations and then . people who are . seen to be . in authority . and in a position of special knowledge . and I think it's . stems from . a number of . origins .

A: mhmh . in the field of . in the . related field of food . scares or

B: well I think yes I think . things like BSE and so on had a . an impact but I think also there's a deeper . deeper resistance to . the way in which . society works in the UK to some extent I think . there's a perception that . what was MAFF . wasn't very open wasn't very clear had it's own agenda it was on the side of agriculture if you like not . what not thinking necessarily in the public interest . I think those are really the . things that . make people . nervous or made people nervous about GM

A: mhmh so there would be maybe a lack of trust in the government do you think also a lack of trust in . the people who are actually involved in the research? [someone knocks at the door]

B: yes . can I? [goes to open the door]

A: would you like me to switch this off [talking about the microphone] [they resume the interview]

B: so the question was?

A: so there is a . there seems to be a lack of trust you were mentioning in the government probably . or on the part of the bodies that [xxx] . do you think this lack of trust extends also to . people who are actually involved in the research? or



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Sociology

BCS70 Malaise Inventory

Pioneers

Folk devils and moral panics

"Visual data gives another layer of information which auditory data or writing cannot provide"



Introduction

Example

References

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Coomber, R. and Letherby, G. (2012) 'Special Issue on the Use of Visual Methods in Social Research', Sociological Research Online, 17(1).

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Becoming a mother

Interview methods

Non-interview methods

The Last Refuge

Psychosocial approaches

Introduction

Reuse

Gender difference

Becoming a mother

References

Acknowledgements

Sociology

BCS70 Malaise Inventory

Pioneers

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"Process of becoming mothers for the first time"



Introduction	Extract one	Extract two	Extract three	Activities
Tutor resource				

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Activity 1: Developing a psychosocial methodology

Read through the user guide documentation for Becoming a Mother.

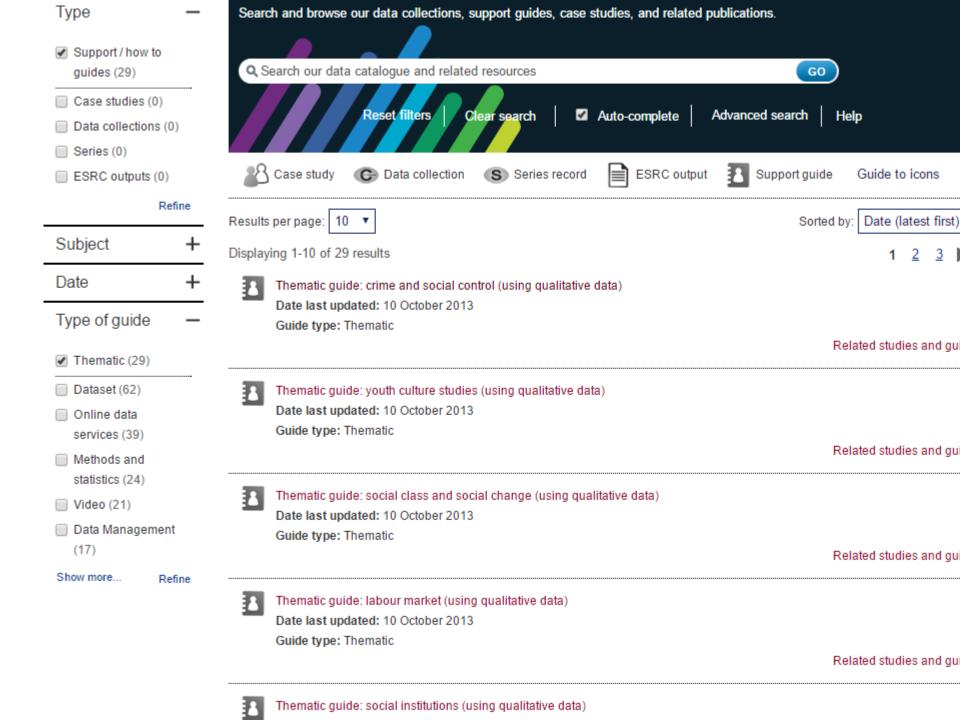
- · What research methods did the researchers use in this project?
- What advantages do you think these researchers gained by interviewing the mothers three times?
- · What kind of data was created in this study?
- . How did the researchers validate their interpretations of the data?
- · What did the psychoanalytically informed observation bring to this study?

Activity 2: The interviewer and interviewee relationship

Read through extract one and extract two from Interviewee 1 from Becoming a Mother.

 How was rapport developed in this study between the researchers and the mothers?





Case Study: Dr April Gallwey

The rewards of using archived oral histories in research: the case of the Millennium Memory Bank

by April Gallwey

Abstract: This article is about using archived oral histories in research. It advocates greater exploration of oral history archives in the UK in light of burgeoning research into the history of post-war society and the social sciences. Drawing on the author's experience of utilising interviews from the Millennium Memory Bank (MMB), it offers a critical reflection on the process of using this particular archive from the perspective of a social historian. Although the challenges of working with the MMB are noted, its unprecedented scale, and incorporation of the 'life history' method, demonstrate its value as a source for historical enquiry. The author highlights the importance of summaries and supporting literature attached to interviews to assist with accessibility and contextualisation, envisioning the archive as an ongoing process, whereby original and subsequent researchers ensure its legacy.

Key words: oral history archives, social history, life history interview, Millennium Memory Bank, re-use, secondary analysis, single motherhood

During the course of the 20th century, increasing amounts of qualitative data collected by social scientists – field notes, interview transcripts, letters, drafts and the like – have been collected and archived. [...] Until recently these documents were largely ignored: social scientists did not know how to use them since they did not conform to standardized norms from which trends could be inferred. Historians did not have the experience of using such sources and in many cases were ignorant about them.\(^1\)

In this statement, Mike Savage captures how the trail of the social scientist alters our gaze onto the historical landscape of the twentieth century. At the same time he foregrounds how a reluctance amongst social scientists to conduct secondary analysis of qualitative data and the negation of such sources by many historians, has until relatively recently, left these sources under-utilised.2 Savage has argued for greater inclusion of archived qualitative data and demonstrated how social research archives. such as the Mass Observation Archive (MOA), profoundly illuminate historical shifts at the socio-cultural level. Savage's most recent work places the social science archive at the heart of his project for a historical sociology of the postwar years.3 Debate about re-use of data has been circulating amongst sociologists for some time, generating a very substantial body of literature.4Although there has been a recent turn to archived social scientific data amongst historians - Paul Thompson has highlighted the multi-





Re-using oral histories

- Wanted to explore personal narratives of single mothers in post-1945 England
- Looked at IWM and MOL before stumbling upon MMB
- Interview summaries helped to refine her searches and – unexpectedly – contributed to her analysis
- Developed a relationship with the narrator in the interviews
- Found how the project was rooted in the political climate of the time
- Drew conclusions about generational dynamics, gender, and ethnicity.
- Data as an on-going, creative project "beyond the recorded interview"





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Date +

Sex +

Age group +

Socioeconomic status

+

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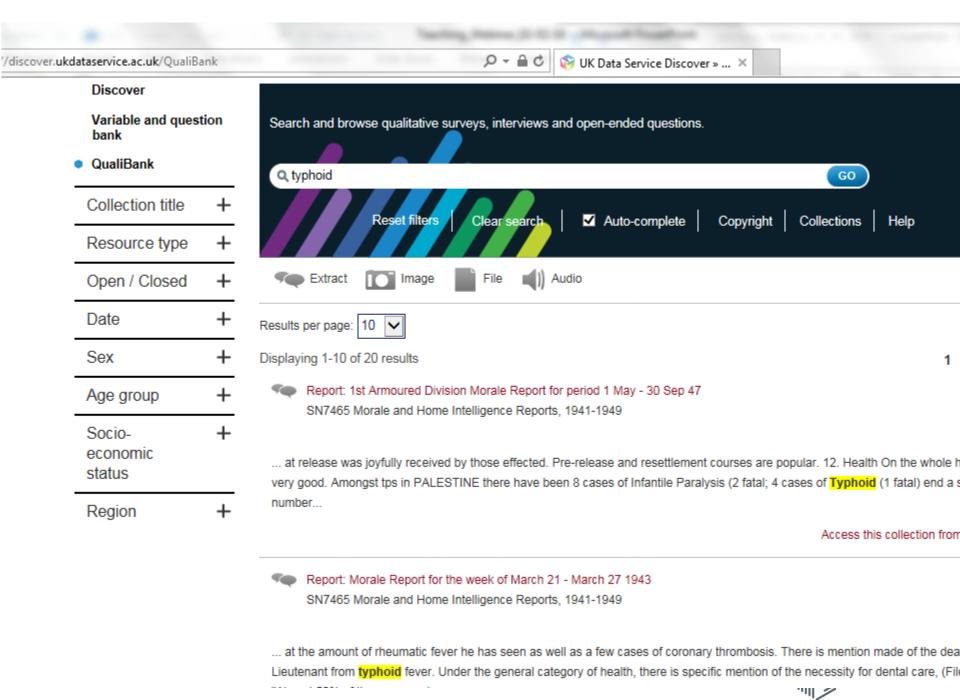
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Interview with Mrs. Omison

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Collection documentation

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DETAILS

Collection ID (SN): 2000

Title: Family Life and Work Experience Before 1918, 1870-1973

Principal investigator: Thompson, P., University of Essex. Department of Sociology

Lummis, T., University of Essex. Department of Sociology

Sex: Female 75-84 Age group: Socio-economic status: Routine North West Region:

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+ Additional metadata

INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT

149 Lee Gate, Harwood, Bolton.

And your marital status? You're a widow, are you?

Voc

	R: Oh yes, that was done. The Maypole dances.				
Create citation	I: Where did they have the Maypole?				
	R: Well of course I remember St. Osyth Priory - I lived just inside St. Osyth then you see, my father and mother moved from Angers Gree to - I told you about the barracks - we moved there when I was - not more than about two I suppose.				
	I: And you lived on there for quite a while didn't you?				
	R: I lived there 'til I got married. Yes.				
	I: Why did they make that move?				
I: R: I: R: R: R: R: R:	R: Well, of course they moved - lived in a house at Angers Green, I don't know who that belonged to but then of course as these barrack cottages became vacant I mean the farmer usually put his men in them you see. That was why my father moved 'cos-;				
	It wasn't because he changed his employer?				
	R: Oh no, the house went with the job you see.				
	I: And at St. Osyth in Priory they used to have a Mayday do did they?				
	R: Oh yes. Well they had - a lot of big do's there when I was a kid, I mean, I belonged to the Sunday school, I used to have all their treats there - their summer treats you know. And of course the woman then who had it - was a very rich woman you see those days, I mean they had about seventeen gardeners and - and seventeen or eighteen indoor staff.				
	RELATED RESOURCES				
	Related external resources				
	XML TEI Transcript				
	XML QuDEx metadata				
	Web Resource: Abstract of the Edwardians book				
	Related audio				
	Audio extract from Interview with Mr. Keble				
	Audio extract from Interview with Mr Keble				
	Related images				
	Image relating to the Edwardians				



- I: Did he ever look after you while your mother went out?
- R: No, no. me mother never had a chance to go out. If there was anything on at the school and we took part in never could go.

Cancel

1 extract selected

Citation

RETRIEVE CITATION

A unique citation reference has been generated based on your selection.

Thompson, P., University of Essex. Department of Sociology, Lummis, T., University of Essex. Department of Sociology: "Interview with Mrs. Omison" in "Family Life and Work Experience Before 1918, 1870-1973" 7, UK Data Service [distributor], 2009-05-12, SN:2000, Para. 186. http://dx.doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-2000-1, https://discover.ukdataservice.ac.uk/OualiBank/Document/?

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