

Welcome

Elizabeth Ann Kendrick

PhD Thesis Title: The Digitisation and Virtual Future of Holocaust Survivor Testimony at the National Holocaust Centre and Museum

Key Research Question: Digital Testimony: A Paradigm Shift, or the Continuation of a Pattern?

For many years, the Holocaust has been considered to be the paradigm case of human suffering. As such, the history of the Holocaust is taught in schools, exhibited in museums and memorialised the World over. Survivor testimony forms and integral part of this, but what happens when they are no longer here to share their experiences?

In response to this, the National Holocaust Centre and Museum (NHCM) in Nottinghamshire have developed a number of 3D 'virtual survivors' in the form of the *Forever Project*. But will these 'digital survivors' effectively recreate / substitute for the direct encounter?

In consideration of this, it is important to examine developments in Holocaust survivor testimony over time. Working closely with the NHCM, I examine the testimonies of five survivors recorded over the past twenty-five years to reveal patterns, changes and consistencies.

Lastly, I examine the development of the *Forever Project* and consider whether these new digital testimonies are the continuation of an already established pattern, or a new type of testimony all together.

Supervisors:

Bill Niven - Nottingham Trent University

Isabel Wollaston - The University of Birmingham

James Griffiths - The National Holocaust Centre and Museum

Biography:

PhD - Midlands3Cities AHRC Doctoral Training Partnership - Nottingham Trent University - Present

Masters (by research) in Holocaust and Genocide Studies - Nottingham Trent University - 2015

BA (Hons) History - The Open University - 2013

Engagement:

- Member of 'Culture and its Uses as Testimony': an international, AHRC-funded **Research Network** - 2016 - 2018
- Member of the planning committee for the **Midlands3Cities 2017 Research Festival** (creative showcase) - 2016/17
- Co-lead on the student led CDF '**Debates in Contemporary Memory Studies**' seminar series and workshop - March - June 2017

Conference Papers

- Presented a paper outlining my PhD research so far at the 'Debates in Contemporary Memory Studies' workshop - May 2017
- '**From Actual to Artifice: Experiencing the Eyewitness**' presented at NTU's History Post-grad conference - June 2017

Placements

- During my second year I undertook a three month work placement as a research assistant at the National Holocaust Centre and Museum (January - April 2018).



University email address:

elizabeth.kendrick2013@my.ntu.ac.uk

LinkedIn:

<https://uk.linkedin.com/in/elizabeth-kendrick-a96ba5b3>

Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/lizzikendrick>

Academia:

<https://nottinghamtrent.academia.edu/ElizabethKendrick>

Other Research Interests:

- Memory Studies
- Museum & Heritage Studies
- Difficult Heritage
- Oral History
- Subaltern Voices
- Colonial Genocide