https://tinyurl.com/ubjvum7
Approaches to Public Data and Archives: Mapping as a Form of Activism

Sylvia Fernández and Maira E. Álvarez
University of Houston
Maps that show us who we are (not just where we are)

https://www.ted.com/talks/danny_dorling_maps_that_show_us_who_we_are_not_just_where_we_are
Borderlands Archives Cartography

A transborderlands project that records nineteenth and twentieth century U.S.-Mexico borderlands newspapers available in digital format. Dedicated to:

- Locate
- Map
- Facilitate access

Financially sustained by its founders and not affiliated to any institution.
Borderlands Newspapers Archives

Período uno: Colonial

Período dos: Guerra México – EE.UU.

Período tres: Relaciones transnacionales
<table>
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<th>Period</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creating Transnational Data</td>
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BAC’s Graphs & Digital Map
Torn Apart / Separados

TA/S a mobilized digital humanities project

**Volume 1** intervened in United States’ immigration debates with data narratives illuminating the effects of the government’s policy of separating families, which began at the Mexico-U.S. border but, as TA/S revealed, is, in fact, a national landscape of immigrant detention.

**Volume 2**, launched two months later, datamined and visualized U.S.-government contracts awarded by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, following the money behind the vast infrastructure subtending immigration enforcement.

Created by a group of librarians and scholars in the humanities from various universities with non financial support.
“Zero Tolerance Policy” Public Files

What We Know: Family Separation And 'Zero Tolerance' At The Border

June 19, 2018 - 2:17 PM ET

CAMILA DOMONOSKE  RICHARD GONZALEZ

A photo provided by U.S. Customs and Border Protection shows the interior of a CBP facility in McAllen, Texas, on Sunday. Immigration officials have separated thousands of families who crossed the border illegally. Reporters taken on a tour of the facility were not allowed by agents to interview any of the detainees or take photos, the AP reported.

Which Politicians are Taking Money from Immigrant Detention Profiteers?

by Kevin Connor and Derek Seidman

JULY 4, 2018
Creating Ethical Data
TA/S Maps and Visualizations
## United Fronteras

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID#</th>
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<th>Country</th>
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<td><a href="https://native-land.ca/">https://native-land.ca/</a></td>
<td>United States, Mexico</td>
<td>1700-Present</td>
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Analyze Mapping Projects

Using archives

1. Chicana por mi raza
2. Texas Slavery Project

Using Public Data

1. Indian Nation
2. Ellas tienen nombre: Cartografía digital de los feminicidios
3. Around DH in 80 Days

- Where does the data come from?
- What is visualize?
- What does the map displays?
- What type of map is being created?
- What are the limitations of the data and map?
Ethics and Critical Approaches

- Collaboration and Interdisciplinary Work
- What data needs to be extracted?
- What data needs to be visualized?
- How to approach a transnational/shared perspective?
- Double check the data
- Create Protocols
- How to create a map as a form of activism?
Creating / Structuring Data

**Archives**

- Excel sheet
- Coordinates (Manually / Automatic generated)
- Keep descriptions short
- Consistency (Format)
- Translations

**Public Files**

- [Hispanic American Newspapers, 1808-1980](#)
- [USASpending.gov](#)
Incorporating to Digital Tools

MAPS / VISUALIZATIONS

- Carto
- Leaflet
- Google Maps
- OpenStreetMaps
- Neatline
- Esri
- QGIS
- ArchGIS

GRAPHS

- RAWGraphs
- Voyant
- GraphsCommons
- Other visualization tools

Tutorials: The Programming Historian
Repository and Context

- Wix
- Wordpress
- Github
- Jekyll

Historical

Narrative

Project description

### Textures

**Our Research**

Tom Aport aggregates and cross-references publicly available data to visualize the geography of Donald Trump’s “zero tolerance” immigration policy in 2018 and immigration incarceration in the USA in general. We also draw attention to the landscapes, families, and communities riven by the massive web of immigrant detention in the United States.

Working nimbly and remotely from four sites in the United States over a six-day period, our small team of researchers set about identifying sources of data on immigrant detention, from ports of entry run by Customs and Border Protection (CBP), to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention centers, to shelters subcontracted by the Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) to care for children in their custody, to the financial trails left by a network of public, private, and non-profit organizations complicit with the complex infrastructure of immigrant detention in the United States.

Our sources for obtaining the data were varied. Those we worked from included a FOIA-ed list of ICE facilities, publicly available lists of CBP sites, data sets of ICE detainee hearings, state childcare licensing databases, government grant awards...
Reflections

- What is the future of your idea or project?
- What communities/institutions/scholars will be interested, benefit or impact from your project?
- What are your thoughts about intersecting the personal and political with the digital?
Sources

The GeoHumanities Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations
http://geohumanities.org/?page_id=125

Digital Humanities Resources for Project Building
http://dhresourcesforprojectbuilding.pbworks.com/w/page/69244243/FrontPage

Mapping a Restless River at the U.S.-Mexico Border
https://www.citylab.com/life/2019/08/rio-grande-map-us-mexico-border-history-el-paso-rio-bravo/596227/?fbclid=IwAR3COqfSqH2s4PYTM0oGLKQKyjZ0SqUOuQquW7nFf7hYWCOGwlbKxyLBU14
Thank you!

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