

EM/CA Public Video Data Capture checklist

Use this checklist before you start recording in a (permitted) public space.

NB: this checklist assumes you have functional, fully charged equipment!

Camera angles

- Do you have the participants' whole bodies in the frame?
- Are you capturing bodies/faces of all parties to the interaction?
- Is your camera stable? If not - find something to lean it on!

Your position

- Are you safe? Travel with a partner and continually re-evaluate.
- Are you in the way? Is your position altering others' behaviors?
- Are you attracting attention? Don't record secretly but do be subtle.

Impact on others

- Do people here have a reasonable expectation of privacy? If so, stop!
- Unsure of privacy issues in this case? Politely ask your subjects' permission.
- Do you know what you're going to say if you are asked what you're doing?

Interactional relevance

- Can you see material resources/objects/tools your participants are using?
- Are they attending to other things in the setting e.g. signage/sound sources?
- Are you capturing angles of approach/exit for people joining/leaving?

A/V Quality

- Is your overall recording long enough? Aim for at least 10-15 minutes.
- Is the video quality high enough? Avoid super-wide angles, use HD if you can.
- Do you have transcription-quality audio? If not, record audio separately.

When to use a formal informed consent procedure

If you are likely to capture identifying information (names, other details) or close-up video of people who are not your identified, consenting subjects, make sure your group asks permission and seek formal consent using the informed consent and debriefing forms and procedures.

Rule of thumb: when people behave in a public-oriented way, e.g. performing, giving a speech, applauding, cheering etc., no consent procedure is necessary. If they are behaving in privately-oriented way, e.g. speaking quietly in a small group, *informed consent is required for filming.*