Annotation Instructions

In the following, you are asked to annotate **offensive utterances**. By that we understand (unfounded) accusations, threats, insults, profanity, obscenity or utterances generally considered rude.

The actual annotation task:

You are asked to annotate a set of offensive utterances. Each utterance has already been rated in a previous survey. However, in that annotation study annotators were not specifically asked where the offensiveness originates. We distinguish between 2 categories: **offensive language** and **offensive contexts**.

If an offensive utterance contains *offensive language*, then that utterance contains explicit offensive words or phrases. Below you find a list of example utterances which contain *offensive language*. The offensive expressions are highlighted in **bold font and red colour**.

- You are a **coward**.
- You are so **treacherous**.
- You are an **idiot**.
- You **sicken** me.
- I really can't stand your **hypocrisy**.
- You are so **lazy**.
- Don't be so **stupid**.
- I **abhor** you.
- Don't be so **foolish**.
- I will **kill** you.
- I really can't stand your **meanness**.
- You are such a **useless** being.
- You are such an **obtuse** person.
- You **disgust** me.
- I really can't stand your **stubbornness**.

Offensive contexts, on the other hand, are utterances which are considered offensive but these utterances do not contain any obvious offensive words or phrases. The offensiveness arises from the utterance as a whole. For example, there are many racist, sexist or homophobe utterances in which the speaker of the utterance employs stereotypes/untruths:

- All gays have aids.
- The US Federal reserve are controlled by Jews.
- Women can't drive.

None of the above utterances contains a single offensive word. Therefore, they should be labeled as *offensive contexts*. Note that one can modify the above utterances so that they actually contain offensive language.

- All **faggots** have aids.
- The US Federal reserve are controlled by **filthy** Jews.
- Women are so **stupid**. They can't drive.

All of these three modified utterances should be labeled as *offensive language*.
Your specific task is:

- to classify a given utterance into *offensive language* or *offensive context*
- in case you classify an utterance as offensive language, you are also asked to specify one offensive expression of that utterance
- you may actually consider the given utterance as *not offensive at all*; in that case you have spotted an annotation error from the previous survey.

Please note that many of utterances to be annotated are tweets or user posts from some internet forums. Several utterances also contain some URL. You are **not** to look up the content of those links. You should make your judgement based on the given utterance alone.

Our recommendation for the annotation is that you store the above guidelines or print them out. You should **use the above examples as a reference** for your annotation.