

# DH as tool oriented

PART I: Exploring the use of search tools as a case

*Digital Humanities: The Digital Turn*

*Sabrina Sauer*

# DH as tool driven

- Some notes about DH programmes:
  - “Develop digital competencies to add a digital dimension to your own domain experience” (Leuven)
  - “Learn to use web technologies (...) digital publishing, maps-app” (King’s College)
  - “Develop tools & apps to deal with specific questions” “text mining, gephi” (UU)
  - Study Tumblr, by using Tumblr as a tool (UvA)
  - DH is about *tool-building projects* (...) with visualization of large image sets, 3D modeling of historical artefacts, born digital dissertations, hashtag activism, mobile makerspaces (L. Klein)

# Today and tomorrow: DH as a tool oriented discipline

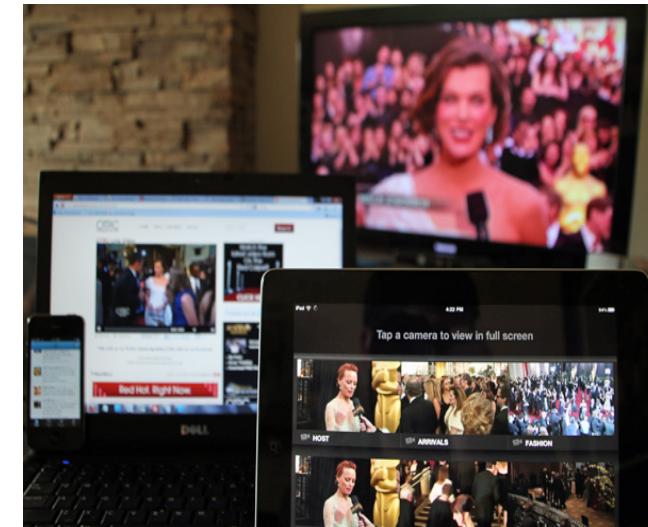
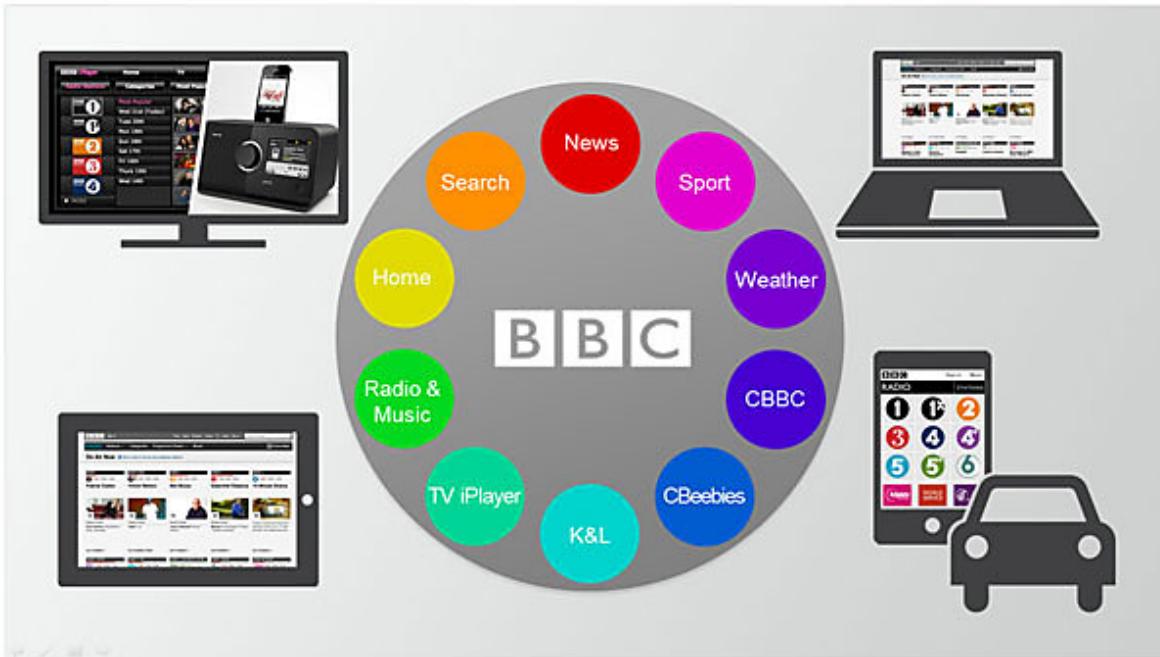
- Today: Investigate tools - CLARIAH Media Suite
- Tomorrow: Theoretical reflections and more about tool criticism

# Diving into the Media Suite

- The tool
- Your experiences: your research diaries
  - What happens when you do not speak the language that the tool uses?
  - Process
  - Interface

# The suite connects to more recent developments in society

- Role and impact of digital media in our daily lives
- Massive digitization – researchers increasingly access (digital) materials, via digital access.



# Digital access to archives



The Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision  
800.000 hours of audio-visual material



Digital humanities: sparking new research questions...

<https://www.beeldengeluid.nl/en/blogs/research-and-development/201307/analysing-subtitles-and-newspaper-articles-quamerdes>



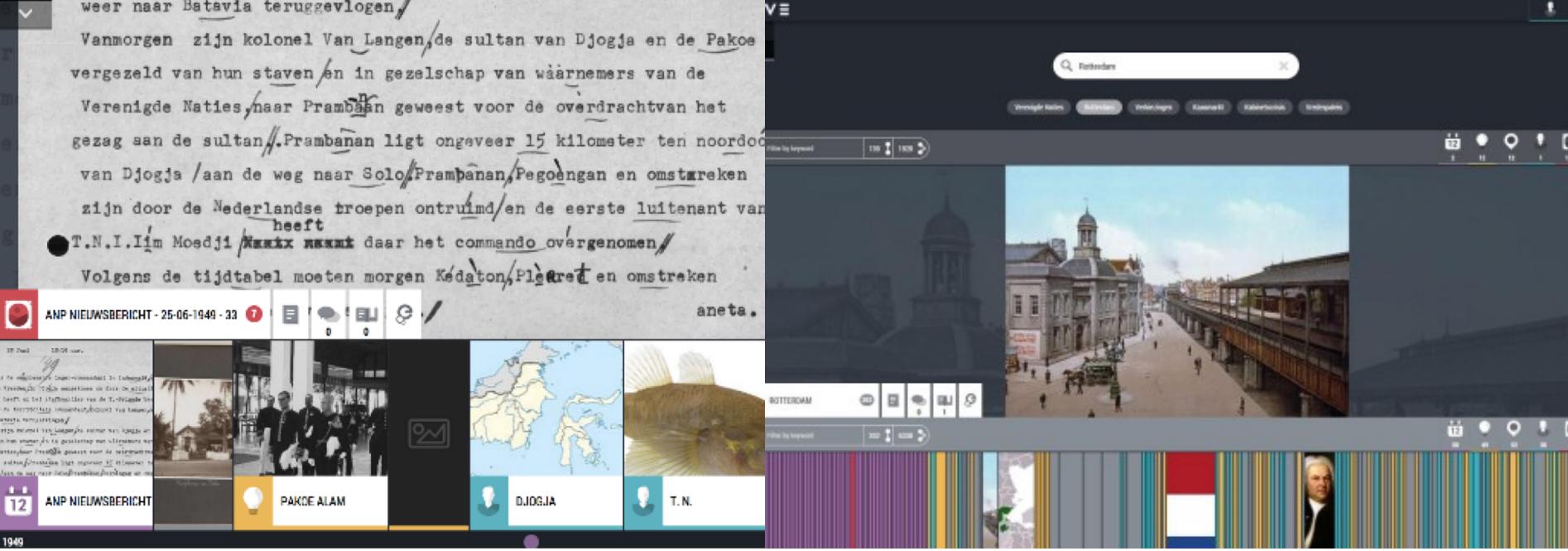
Academics in a split position...

# New opportunities and new types of questions that can be asked

- **Encouraging use** of television archives
- European audio-visual heritage: promoting engagement with **cultural memory** (national and European level)
- **Increased access** and more direct availability of high quality material
- **Metadata** and contextualization (by whom, why, how ...) → otherwise, material loses its value for research
- **Visualization and comparison** of (social / cultural) trends, opportunities to identify this faster / over a longer period
- **Multi-media perspectives** (cross-media, but also searching and linking of various data sets from different collections)

# New challenges and new types of questions that should be asked

- Practices of cross-media storytelling (e.g. TV programme website with contextual information - audio, video, photo, text) are highly susceptible to **change**
- Often **no structural archiving** of contextual information, both online (web-archiving) as printed and digital production documentation (for a complete memory of production)
- **Media literacy** digital natives ('digital naives?') / non-digital natives
- **New questions** to be asked: how selected, under what circumstances / conditions available ('politics of archiving), but also: how to search
- Audio-visual material represents a construction/selection of our reality, availability in database is again **a selection by curators** → **in the digital age more people** are part of selection process



**DIVE+ is a linked-data digital cultural heritage collection browser.** It was developed to provide innovative access to heritage objects from heterogeneous collections using historical events and narratives as the context for searching, browsing and presenting objects.

The DIVE+ demonstrator uses semantics from existing collection vocabularies and linked data vocabularies to establish connections between the collection media objects and the events, people, locations and concepts that are depicted or associated with those objects.

# Example: the importance of narratives to guide understanding

- <https://youtu.be/M6z0XZMvdD8?t=270>
- Think about and take notes on:
  - What is the main narrative?
  - Is there a turning point in the narrative? Does it change the interpretation of the narrative?
  - How do you think certain political/cultural/etc. meanings are attributed?



# DIVE+

EXPLORATION PATH

Prinses Juliana ★

	rotterdam	
	ANP Nieuwsbericht - 27-03-1937 - 3	
	Algemeen Nederlandsch Persbureau A. ...	
	RADIO 2. Tweede uitzending van 16 Feb...	
	Hotel EXELSIOR	
	Prinses Juliana en Prins Bernhard zijn ...	
	Prinses Juliana	

#### DESCRIPTION

RADIO 2. Tweede uitzending van 16 Februari 1937\* Goedenavond Dames en Heeren, Nieuwsberichten van het Algemeen Nederlandsch Persbureau A. N. P. Publicatie is verboden\*krachten de Auteurswet. Tweede uitzending voor de A. V. R. O. (3% & %t6.) BINNENLAND: Vanmiddag kreeg een 30 jarige landbouwer te GELSELAAR in de gemeente Borculo bij het schoonmaken van een kippenhok de elektrische stroom door zich heen en werd op slag gedood. ^ 1 Vanavond is te Rotterdam een 75 jarige man, vermoedelijk misleid door de duisternis aan het eind van de Oppert naast de sluizen in de Stokvischverlaat geraakt en verdronken. Prinses Juliana en Prins Bernhard zijn vanavond te Zeeland See aange- j komen. Het, weerzien met bta& koninklijke moeder was zeer hartelijk. / Met Haar#ie%& ;]t< 2%< mr het souper gebruikt in %/ Hotel EXELSIOR. Het jonge paar heeft het voornemen vanav& nd de reis voort& e zetten naar MITTERZELL waar het zijn intrek zal nemen in een oud kasteel dat tegenwoordig ingericht is als pension voor voornamely buitenlanders. Omrent het noodlottige ongeval dat vanmiddag in den Haag bij het g. n aanbouw zijnde Bosbad geschiedde kan nader worden medegedeeld dat een der slachtoffers, de Schilder SCHAFTHUIZEN uit Schiedam imiddels aan zijn bekomen verwondingen is overleden. Behalve éa tMoattund< w'n dew 1\*. 6 jarigen A. KLEINGELD, wiens toestand vrij ernstig is maken alle, overige slachtoffers- het redelijk wel. Nader is gebleken dat het de middelstes-haak van het verval is geweest die gebroken ia. / 9\*\* \*

#### DATE START

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#### DATE END

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#### COPYRIGHT

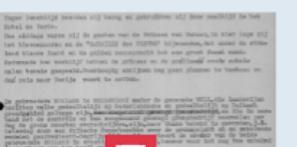
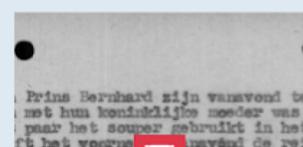
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#### SOURCES

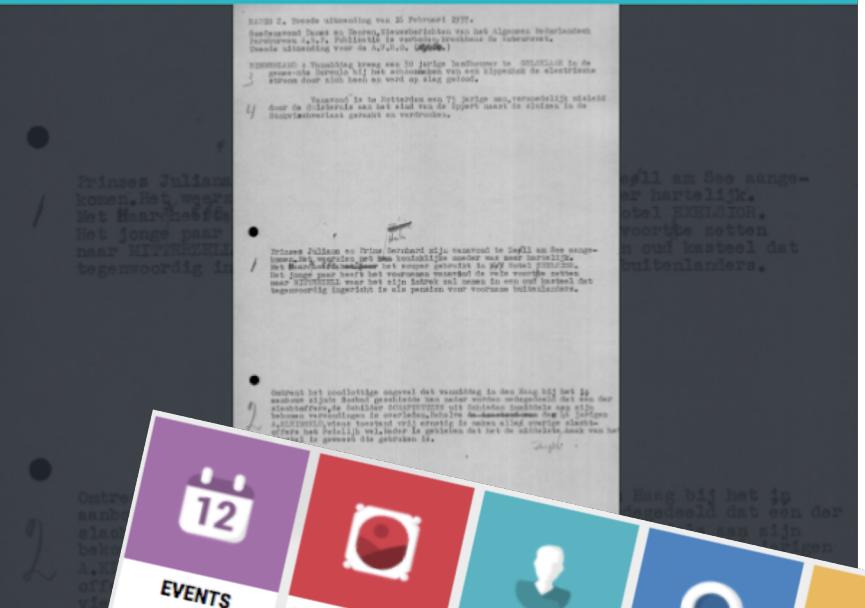
Related entities 56

Filter by keyword

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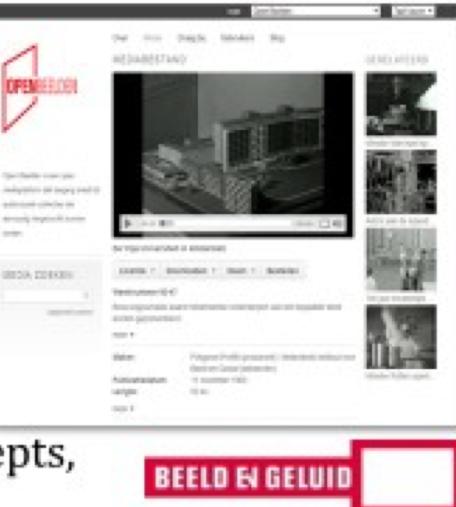
<https://diveplus.sudox.nl>





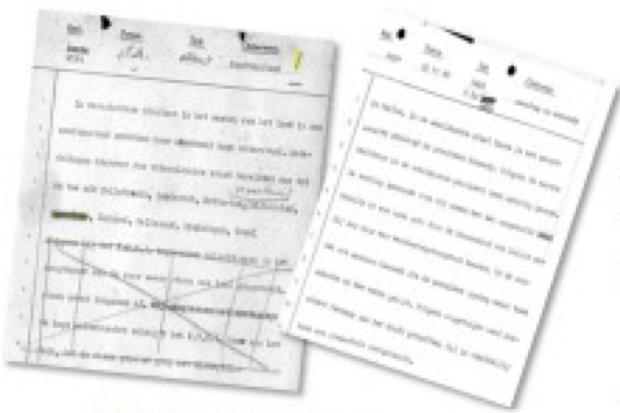
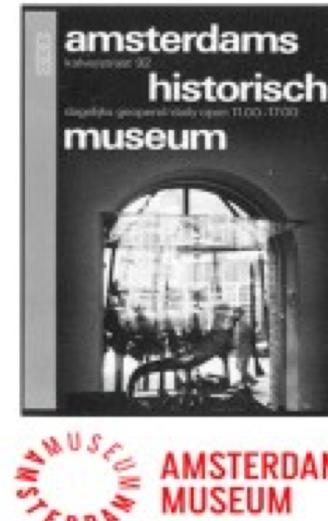
## OPENIMAGES.EU

- 3,220 news broadcasts
- 1920 – 1980
- Sound & Vision
- Thesaurus: GTAA  
(Gemeenschappelijke Thesaurus Audiovisuele Archieven; 160,000 concepts, places and persons)



## AMSTERDAM MUSEUM

- 73,447 images / cultural heritage objects
- Thesaurus: AM  
(Amsterdam Museum; 28,000 concepts, places, persons and 148 events) / GTAA



KB Koninklijke Bibliotheek  
National library of the Netherlands

## DELPHER.NL

- 197,199 scans of radio bulletins (typoscripts)
- 1937 – 1984
- Thesaurus: GTAA



Tropenmuseum

## TROPENMUSEUM

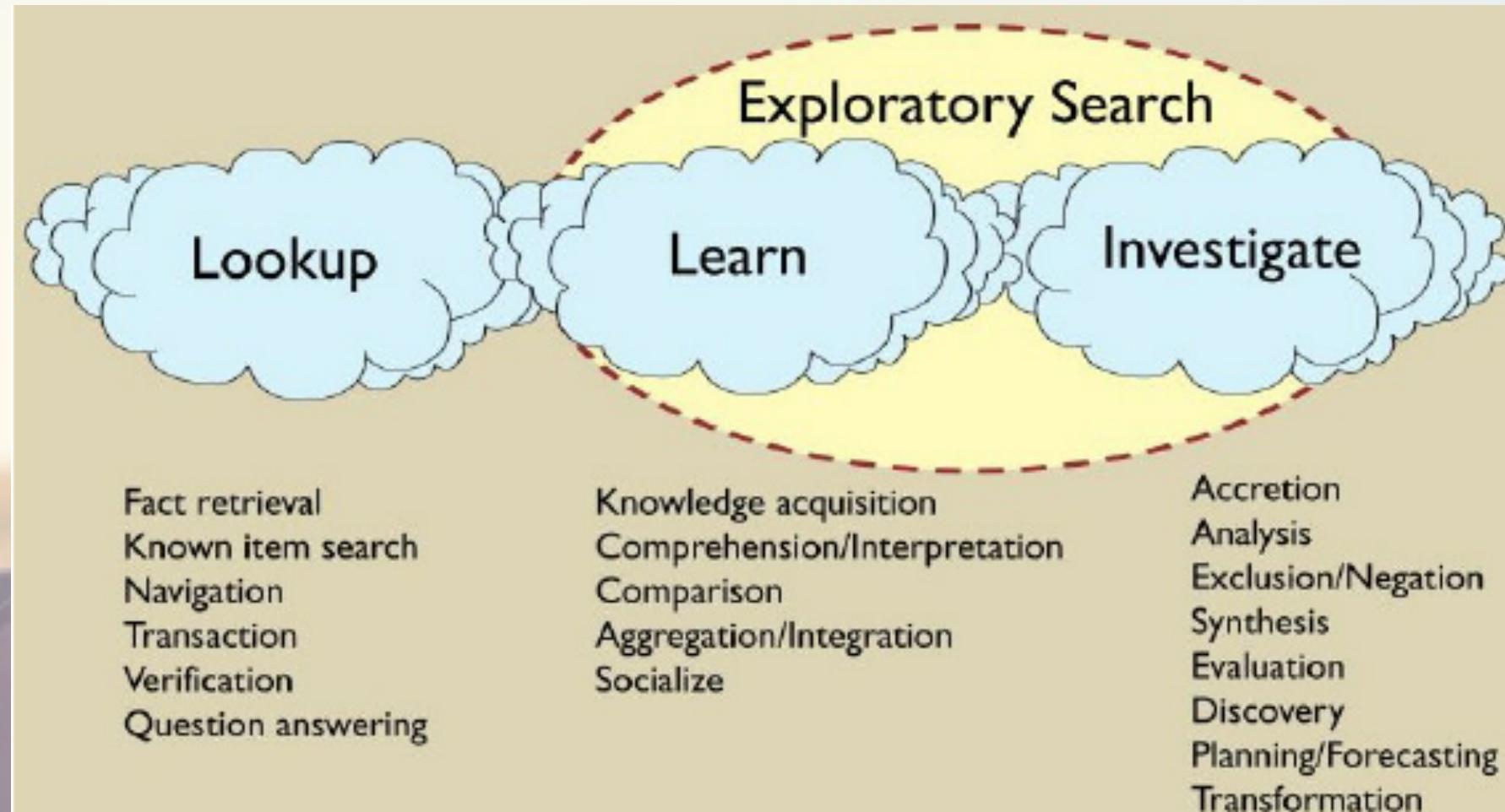
- 78,270 images / cultural heritage objects related to ethnological research
- Thesaurus: SVCN (Stichting Volkenkundige Collectie Nederland; 3,896 places and 13,269 content subjects) / GTAA

# From document-centric to linked data

This is an alternative way to look at a knowledge graph that combines meta data, annotations, enrichments



# Gary Marchionini, 'Exploratory Search: From Finding to Understanding' (2006)





# DIVE+

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**Prinses Juliana ★**

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**DATE START**

**DATE END**

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**SOURCES**

**Filter by keyword**

**Events 12**

**MediaObjects 13**

**People 17**

**Locations 5**

**Concepts 2**

**DIVE+:**

- Potential of exploratory search
- Discovery of research questions
- Narrative creation

<https://diveplus.sudox.nl>

# Questions

- Have you used audio-visual (AV) materials before in doing research and if so, how (e.g. as a source when writing a research paper)?
- What is your definition of a 'narrative'?
- How do researchers construct a 'narrative' when they try to answer a research question and research AV sources to do so?

# Your experiences: research diaries

Exploration and new research questions, new narratives?

# ACTIVITY

- Drawing upon your group's research diaries: together, visualize the research process as 1 narrative (as a mindmap / drawing)
- In your visualization show:
  1. The role of the search process in shaping the narrative, and how the tool affords (contributes to) this process
  2. The role of the tool in shaping the meanings you attribute to the found AV content
  3. Do search results change the narrative? (is there something in the results / studied materials that changes the narrative)

# Present your visualization

- In conclusion, **reflect on your group work and research diaries**. Together, answer the following questions:
- Compare exploratory search to more traditional types of search. What is the impact and added value of exploratory search for a) **research** and b) **learning**?
- What is value of narratives for a) **doing research with AV** and b) **learning with AV**?
- What is value of events for a) **doing research with AV** and b) **learning with AV**?