Title of Presentation: Ecology of an Online Archive: Visual Activism and Political Visibilities in Israel/Palestine

Abstract 150 words

Archives are cultural products, the organization and maintenance of which contribute to the validation of knowledge and the management of meaning. These processes are to a large extent determined by the mutual dependencies of medium, materiality, and locality (Vestberg, 2013). Thus how we see, experience and find an archive all determine the way in which an archive fulfills its tasks and exerts its power. Equally, regimes of visibility and the relationship between politics and aesthetics such as photography are also closely aligned with the configurations of power.

Thus, this paper will focus on the political photography and online archive of the Israeli-Palestinian Photography collective, ActiveStills as a form of visual activism. Recognizing ActiveStills' commitment to documenting anti-occupation actions constitutes a 'preservationist' quality that Raymond Williams associates with the term ecology. Thus, how the images move between different environments, mediums and interact with varying image-communities and image systems will be considered.

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