When War Comes Home: A Humanistic Archive for Veterans, Families, and the Long-Term Consequences of War

Laboratory of Information Systems

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The war within everyday life

Memories enter relationships and family life

Caregiving and loss continue after combat

Documents remain scattered across households

People decide which details matter

The person's choice

A contributor chooses what matters

Scientific usefulness need not determine inclusion

An ordinary life deserves room in the archive

Preservation does not require an official narrative

Personal memory and official history

Authorities can impose an authorised account

Public categories can exclude personal experience

Contributors retain their own words

The archive has no prescribed political interpretation

A personal or family collection

Text and handwritten materials

Photographs and correspondence

Audio and video in the contributor's language

Documents that the contributor wishes to preserve

Language and viewpoint

People speak in their own language

Different memories can coexist

Pride and doubt can appear in the same collection

Translation preserves access to the original

Later reflections on earlier experience

People can change their interpretation

Later accounts retain their own dates

Earlier words keep their historical context

Families can preserve different perspectives

Preservation and access

Storage and public display are separate choices

Contributors choose access to their materials

Research use follows the contributor's permissions

A private family collection can remain private

Rules for preservation

Rules support storage and findability

Original contributions retain their identity

Changes remain distinguishable from originals

Viewpoint does not determine acceptance

The laboratory's role

A usable means of contributing material

Durable preservation and identifiable records

Access according to the contributor's choices

Continuity as tools and institutions change

Tools that support the contributor

Transcription can make recordings searchable

Translation can connect different languages

Search can help people find related material

Derived texts remain separate from originals

Possible uses of preserved experience

Families can transmit memory between generations

Researchers may discover new questions

Preserving an account does not certify every claim

Research remains subject to access permissions

Development is underway

The project is technically feasible

Work on the archive is underway

The conference presents its public principles

Implementation details remain confidential

CONCLUSION

The value of a person's own history

The person chooses what matters

The archive provides a means of preservation

Later interpretation can remain open

Human experience retains value beyond institutional approval

Public project statements

Laboratory of Information Systems (2026)
When War Comes Home: A Humanistic Archive…
DOI: 10.66659/bhh9qg69

Laboratory of Information Systems (2026)
PD Human Experience Archive: Legal and Organizational Framework
DOI: 10.66659/097dbc26