DATA PROTECTION PLAN

***Please include responses tailored to your institution’s capabilities, and scope of project ***

Please make sure your Data Protection Plan addresses the points below:

1. When not in use removable storage devices holding the data, and printouts derived from data analysis must be kept in a locked compartment or room.

2. All data must be stored on a secure computer or server in such a way to only allow authorized individuals access through firewalled, username/password authentication methods.

3. All original data are to be destroyed at the completion of the aforementioned research project or teaching assignment, and no backup copies of the data are to be made.

4. There can be no transmittal of the data of any kind. If a journal requires archiving of the data or verification of the analysis, this must be done through the Roper Center.

5. Beyond research publications or presentations, there can be no transmittal of any kind of analysis or output derived from the exit poll data.

SAMPLE RESPONSE:

The data will be kept on a flash drive kept in a locked drawer when not in use.

The analysis will be conducted on a Name University desktop computer with encryption and password management. All Name University desktop computers are protected by firewalled, username/password authentication.

The original data will be destroyed using appropriate file erasure methods at the end of the project i.e., not simply formatting the flash drive. No backup copies will be made.

I am the only person who will analyze the data. Neither my collaborators nor anyone else will have access.

Lastly, the data will not be transmitted in any manner. Only aggregate statistical results will be reported if the paper is published in a peer-reviewed journal.

NOTE: We understand that most journals require making data publicly available, but we have to maintain a stricter standard than this. It is crucial that NEP raw data is not transmitted or made available. Roper Center can work with journals to ensure that publications requirements are met while retaining the restrictions upon publication of exit poll data.

Please note, the Data Protection Plan applies to all original exit poll data as well as to all data derived solely or in part from the original exit poll data.