Some Referencing Examples

Referencing is a skill that you will become very familiar with at university. If you are using someone else’s work, you need to say so! References to other articles and primary sources (e.g. statistical data available online) should be attributed to the author and not pass as your own work. Whilst this is probably not a skill that you have much experience in, it is important that you acknowledge in some way if you are using the work of another in your writing.

There are a number of different styles of references used in social justice writing. Some examples of these styles of references are provided below. It is up to you what style you adopt in your own piece of writing, but please do be sure to acknowledge your sources where you are quoting directly or providing statistics. We need to know where you have got your information from!

› For web-based writing, hyper-links are a common form of referencing. This form of referencing is used in Open Democracy for example. If you click on the blue hyper-links below, they take you to the source of information being discussed or directly quoted:

‘Stars and Stripes, the newspaper of the United States military, says the US “will adjust its tactics and risk more civilian casualties when launching air strikes against high-value targets in Syria and Iraq as part of an effort to increase pressure on Islamic State militants.”’

› For more academic citations, there are different style guides. In the School of Law at Warwick, for example, the standard reference guide is OSCOLA, where the references are included in footnotes or endnotes. Using this system, a book would be referenced as follows:


› Another common form of academic referencing is Harvard. Here, the references appear in the main body of the text in brackets and the full reference is included in a bibliography at the end of the piece:

‘Its provision is thus important not only for allowing people to recognise rights violations in their own lives, but also for empowering them to stand up for their own rights and for the rights of others (Murphy & Ruane 2003: 302)’