

# **An Exploration of Everyday Information Behavior**

2017 Elfreda A. Chatman  
Research Award

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# Overview



- The Everyday
- Information Behavior
- Research Question
- Pilot Study
- Initial Findings
- Next Steps

# The Everyday



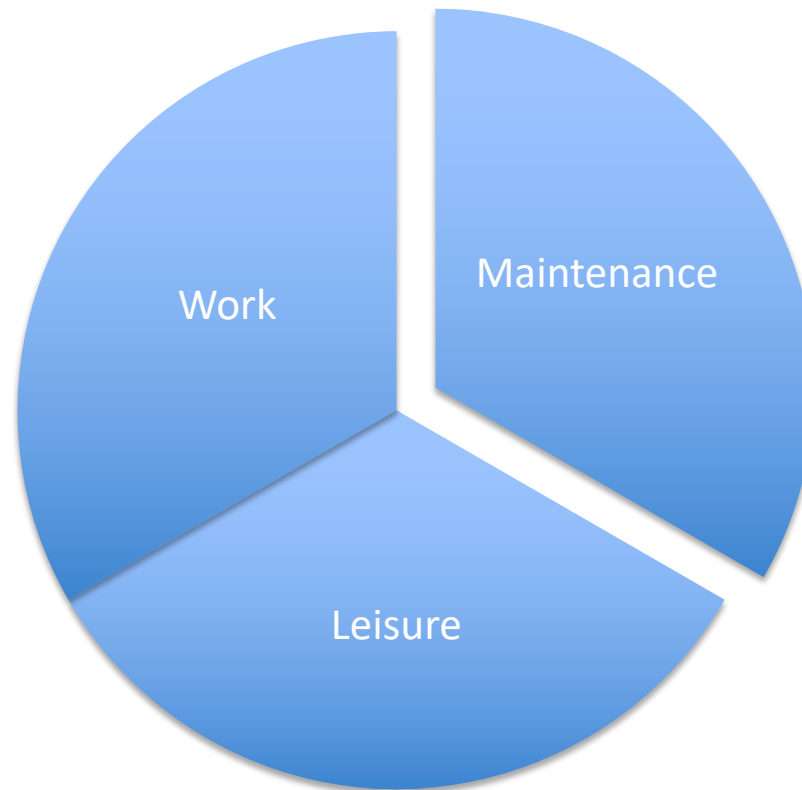
*The world of the everyday life is consequently  
man's fundamental and paramount reality.*

(Schütz & Luckman, 1973, p. 3)

(Campos, 2007)



# The Totality of Everyday Life



(Lefebvre, 2008)

# Information Behavior

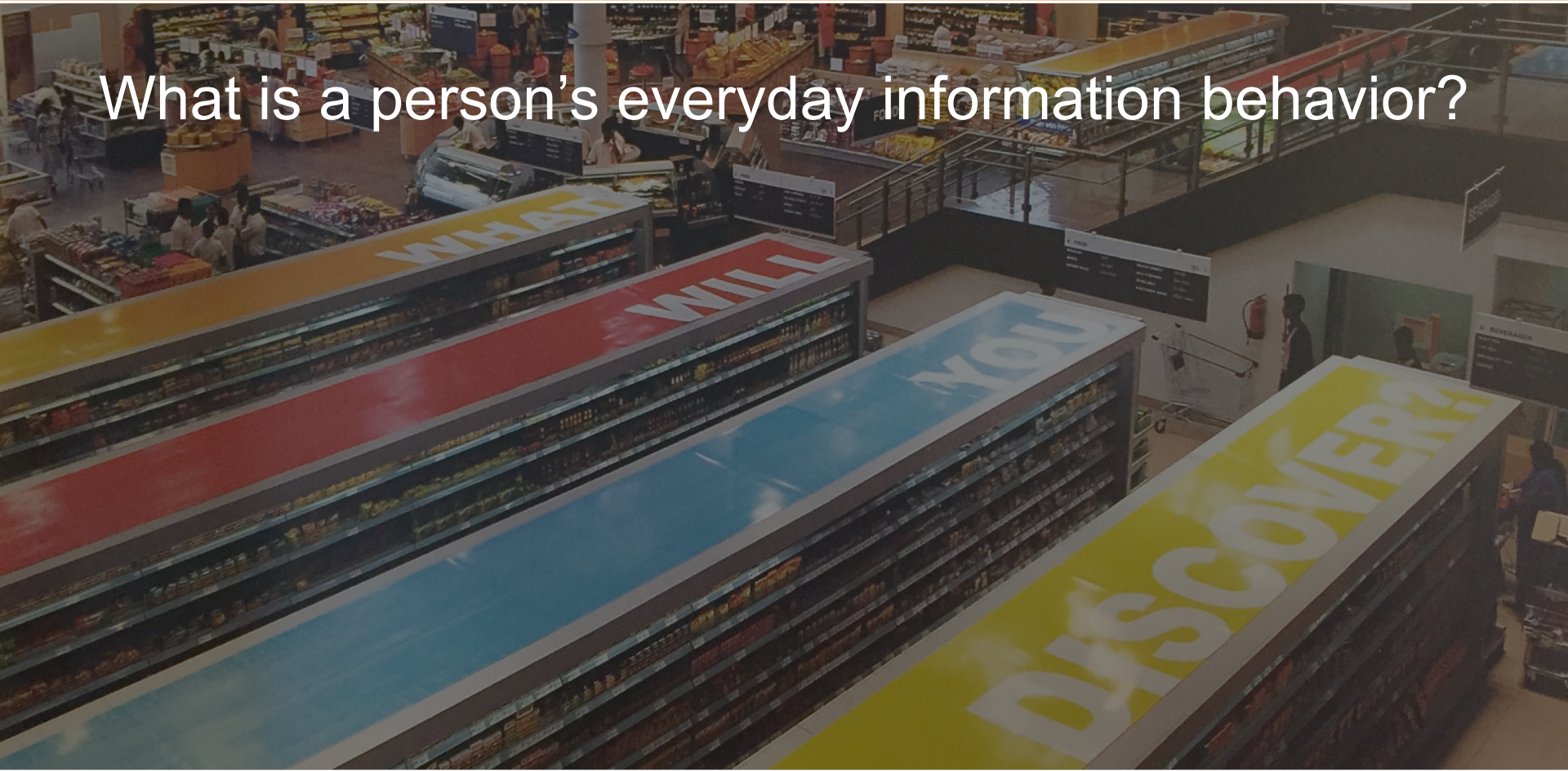


- Intra-individual information behavior in daily life (Julien and Michels, 2004).
- The big five personality characteristics and information behavior (Heinstrom, 2010).

# Research Question



What is a person's everyday information behavior?



# Pilot Study - Methodology



- Institutional Ethnography (Smith, 1987)
- Initial interview and short survey
- A week of observations across life-contexts
- Follow-up interview



# Pilot Study – Data Collection



- Data collection occurred Jan. 2018
- Participant – a graduate student in a STEM field
- Initial interview – 31 minutes
- Observations – 9 observations, average length 1 hour and 28 minutes, min = 22 minutes, max = 2 hours and 30 minutes

# Pilot Study – Initial Findings



- The procedures mostly work!
- Three trends emerged that show this participant approaches information the same way across contexts.
  - Cross referencing
  - Information Reviewing
  - Vision driven information seeking

(Lee and Ocepek, 2018, ASIS&T Poster)



# Next Steps



- Continued data collection
  - Summer and Winter 2019
- Purposive sampling
  - Seven more participants

# Thank you



Heather O'Brien, Lori Kendall, Lo Lee, and  
Reviewers



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# Thank you

