

The following is an example of an informed consent form. Researchers should consult Muhlenberg College Policy and Procedure Regarding Research with Human Subjects

Sample Informed Consent Form (Focus Group)

Title of Research

Senator X Political Advertising Research

Researcher:

Jane Doe, Communication and Political Science Dual Major

Costs and/or Payments to Subject for Participation in Research

There will be no costs for participating in the research. Also, participants will not be paid to participate in this research project. However, complimentary refreshments will be available to you during the focus group time.

Payment for Research Related Injuries

Although there are no risks of injury involved with this study, Muhlenberg College has made no provision for monetary compensation in the event of injury resulting from the research. In the event of such injury, Muhlenberg College will provide assistance in locating and accessing appropriate health care services. The cost of health care services is the responsibility of the participant.

Questions

Any questions concerning the research project and/or in the case of injury due to the project, participants can call Dr. John Que (faculty advisor for this project) at XXX-XXX-XXXX. Questions regarding rights as a person in this research project should be directed to name (the Muhlenberg College IRB Chairperson).

Agreement

This agreement states that you have received a copy of this informed consent. Your signature below indicates that you agree to participate in this study.

Signature of Subject _____ Date _____

Subject name (printed) _____

Signature of Researcher _____ Date _____

The following is an example of an informed consent form. Researchers should consult Muhlenberg College Policy and Procedure Regarding Research with Human Subjects

Sample Informed Consent Form (Interview)

Title of Research: Citizen Experiences with Welfare

Researcher: Jane Doe, Muhlenberg College Student, Class of 2008

Before agreeing to participate in this research study, it is important that you read the following explanation of this study. This statement describes the purpose, procedures, benefits, risks, discomforts, and precautions of the program. Also described are the alternative procedures available to you, as well as your right to withdraw from the study at any time. No guarantees or assurances can be made as to the results of the study.

Explanation of Procedures: This research is designed to measure welfare recipients experiences with local government agencies. Participation in the study involves completion of a short survey, and a series of interviews which will last about one hour. The interviews will be audio-taped and the researcher will transcript these into written transcripts at a later date for the purpose of analysis. The interviews will occur in a setting that is mutually comfortable, such as a local coffee shop or library.

Risks and Discomforts: There are no risks or discomforts that are anticipated from your participation in the study. Potential risks or discomforts include a range of emotional feelings when asked questions during the interview about your socioeconomic status, employment history, and experiences with local government agencies and bureaucracies.

Benefits: The anticipated benefit of participation is the opportunity to discuss feelings, perceptions, and concerns related to the experience of receiving welfare assistance.

Confidentiality: The information gathered during this study will remain confidential. Only the researcher and the Muhlenberg College IRB will have access to the study data and information. There will not be any identifying names on the tapes, and participant's names will not be available to any-one. The tapes will be destroyed at the completion of the study. The results of the research will be published in the form of a paper and may be published in a professional journal or presented at professional meetings. The information will help others better understand the experiences of welfare recipients.

Withdrawal without Prejudice: Participation in this study is voluntary; refusal to participate will involve no penalty. Each participant is free to withdraw consent and discontinue participation in this project at any time without prejudice from this institution.

Payment: You will not be compensated in any way for participation in this study.

Questions: Any questions concerning the research project and/or in the case of injury due to the project, participants can call Dr. X (faculty advisor for this project) at XXX-XXX-XXXX. Questions regarding rights as a person in this research project should be directed to [please place name of current IRB chairman here], Muhlenberg College.

Agreement

This agreement states that you have received a copy of this informed consent. Your signature below indicates that you agree to participate in this study.

Signature of Subject: _____

Date: _____

Subject name (printed): _____

Signature of Researcher: _____

Date: _____