

SAMPLE INFORMED CONSENT FORM

UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

CONSENT TO BE A RESEARCH SUBJECT

Purpose and Background

Ms. Amanda Jacobs, a graduate student in the School of Education at the University of San Francisco is doing a study on self-esteem of adults who attend college after the age of 35. Over the past several years, more and more people are beginning college later in life. The researchers are interested in understanding the differences in self-esteem among these older-than-traditional-age students as compared to students who begin college immediately upon graduation from high school.

I am being asked to participate because I am over 35 years of age and am attending college.

Procedures

If I agree to be a participant in this study, the following will happen:

1. I will complete a short questionnaire giving basic information about me, including age, gender, race, religion, and job history.
2. I will complete a survey about self-esteem.
3. I will participate in an interview with a research assistant, during which I will be asked about my educational history, my educational goals, and my career aspirations.
4. I will complete the surveys and participate in the interview at the office of Dr. Susan Washington in the School of Education at the University of San Francisco.

Risks and/or Discomforts

1. It is possible that some of the questions on the self-esteem survey may make me feel uncomfortable, but I am free to decline to answer any questions I do not wish to answer or to stop participation at any time.
2. Participation in research may mean a loss of confidentiality. Study records will be kept as confidential as is possible. No individual identities will be used in any reports or publications resulting from the study. Study information will be coded and kept in locked files at all times. Only study personnel will have access to the files.
3. Because the time required for my participation may be up to 2 hours, I may become tired or

bored.

Benefits

There will be no direct benefit to me from participating in this study. The anticipated benefit of this study is a better understanding of the effect of the college experience on students who are older than traditional age.

Costs/Financial Considerations

There will be no financial costs to me as a result of taking part in this study.

Payment/Reimbursement

I will be reimbursed \$5.00 for my participation in this study. I will be paid in cash immediately after I have completed the questionnaire, survey, and interview. If I decide to withdraw from the study before I have completed participating or the researchers decide to terminate my study participation, I will still receive full reimbursement.

Questions

I have talked to Ms. Jacobs or her research assistant about this study and have had my questions answered. If I have further questions about the study, I may call her at (415) 422-1234 or Dr. Susan Washington (415) 422-4321.

If I have any questions or comments about participation in this study, I should first talk with the researchers. If for some reason I do not wish to do this, I may contact the IRBPHS, which is concerned with protection of volunteers in research projects. I may reach the IRBPHS office by calling (415) 422-6091 and leaving a voicemail message, by e-mailing IRBPHS@usfca.edu, or by writing to the IRBPHS, Department of Psychology, University of San Francisco, 2130 Fulton Street, San Francisco, CA 94117-1080.

Consent

I have been given a copy of the "Research Subject's Bill of Rights" and I have been given a copy of this consent form to keep.

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH IS VOLUNTARY. I am free to decline to be in this study, or to withdraw from it at any point. My decision as to whether or not to participate in this study will have no influence on my present or future status as a student or employee at USF.

My signature below indicates that I agree to participate in this study.

Subject's Signature

Date of Signature

Signature of Person Obtaining Consent

Date of Signature