

## TEACHER CONSENT

### Social Problem Solving Project - C

As a teacher of children between the ages of 4-8 in preschool through second grade, you are asked and invited to participate in a research study conducted by Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service. This will occur over the next several months of Fall 2007. Teachers from across the state in approximately 22 other preschools, Head Start centers, or elementary schools will be participating in this study. The purpose is to evaluate children's interpersonal problem-solving skills and social behavior.

If you agree, your participation will include:

1. Sending home recruitment letters to parents and collecting consent forms for children to participate.
2. Completing questionnaires for each child whose parents' have given consent, both before and after program implementation (late August/September and again in late November/early December). The questionnaire will ask you to rate each child's interpersonal problem-solving skills, social behavior, and peer relations.
3. Allowing each child (with parents' consent and the child's assent) to be excused from class for a brief interview (approximately 15-30 minutes). This will be done prior to the beginning of ICPS program lessons and again after conclusion of ICPS lessons. The county extension educator will be responsible for conducting the interviews. The interviews present hypothetical story situations and the child will be asked ways to handle it, ideas to solve a problem, or feelings that may result.

**Cost and Benefits:** There will be no financial cost to you. At the completion of the study, you will be sent a \$30.00 check. The evaluation will provide important information to enhance program materials, training, or delivery of curriculum. Findings will help measure program success and decisions for future programming.

**Confidentiality:** Information that is obtained in this study which could be identified with you and the children will remain confidential. All staff have been carefully trained in confidentiality and procedures will be used to protect the privacy of your and the children's responses. Reported or published information will not identify or connect the findings with individuals involved in the study, and participant responses will be combined and reported as an aggregate group. Questionnaires will be identified by subject number only, rather than names. Paper copies of forms/documents will be kept in locked file storage. Records may only be accessed by authorized program-related staff. It is possible that the consent process and data collection will be observed by research oversight staff responsible for safeguarding the rights and wellbeing of people who participate in research. Results from this study may be presented in reports, at professional meetings, or in publications. The information will be saved as long as it is useful for study and may be kept for up to ten years.

**Risks:** Risks are minimal and not greater than those usually faced in daily life. The only possible risk might be accidental disclosure of information. However, this risk has been greatly reduced by careful training of program and research staff and keeping all records confidential. The stories used for the interviews with children are possibly stressful situations but they are

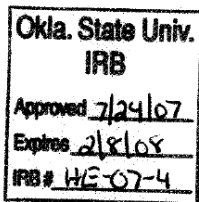
common types of experiences children have. If a child becomes uncomfortable or upset during the interview, they will be given the opportunity to stop with absolutely no penalty.

**Voluntary participation:** Your participation is completely voluntary. You may refuse to participate and you are free to withdraw your consent and participation in this project at any time without penalty and without affecting your standing with your school, Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Services, or Oklahoma State University. You will be given a signed and dated copy of this form to keep.

**For further information:** If you have any questions about this research project, you may contact Debbie Richardson, Human Development and Family Science Dept., 233 HES, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078; telephone number: (405) 744-6231 or by email at [debbie.richardson@okstate.edu](mailto:debbie.richardson@okstate.edu) You may also contact Dr. Sue C. Jacobs, IRB Chair, Oklahoma State University, 219 Cordell North, Stillwater, OK 74078, (405) 744-1676 or [irb@okstat.edu](mailto:irb@okstat.edu) .

Thank you for your time, assistance and the opportunity for the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service to partner with you.

**In order for us to proceed with this project, we need the completed attached form from you. Please return to your county Extension Educator.**



**TEACHER CONSENT**  
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I have read and understood the information about the project study and consent form. I understand that my signature means that I am agreeing to participate in this project and study. I sign it freely and voluntarily. A copy has been given to me.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Teacher

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
School/Center

**Please return this completed form to your county Extension Educator.**

