

Teachers College, Columbia University  
INFORMED CONSENT -INTERVIEWS

**DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH:** You are invited to participate in an exploratory research study of people and institutions involved in education outside of schools in your community. The goal is to highlight the extent of this informal education as it is provided in many different places: in after-school clubs, churches, mosques, support groups, online groups, parks, stores, etc., as well as families, groups of peers, etc.

You have been selected because you are active in New York City, whether as someone who lives there, or someone who works there. You will be asked questions about how you find out about what is important in your life, what you try to learn and from whom, what you try to teach (to your children, friends, people in institutions, etc.). These interviews will be audio-taped if you agree. We believe that audio-taping will allow us to be more accurate when reflecting your views. If you do not wish to be audio-taped, we will take notes.

The research will be conducted by members of the research team.

The research will be conducted at a location of your convenience.

**RISKS AND BENEFITS:** The risks associated with this study are similar to those one may experience during interviews with journalists (including mild irritation at the researchers, boredom) .

There will be no direct benefits to you. Because of our links to various institutions, we may be able to help, in a limited fashion, with access to some of their programs. There may be an indirect benefit to your community if the research is successful in making its strengths more noticeable to those who impact it. There will be no consequence to you if you decide not to participate or to participate only partially.

**DATA STORAGE TO PROTECT CONFIDENTIALITY:** The notes taken during the interviews and observations, as well as all tape recordings, will be kept in a locked cabinet at Teachers College, as well as on password-protected computer directories. No one but the members of the team will have access to these.

**TIME INVOLVEMENT:** Your initial participation will take approximately two hours. It may extend to a few more hours if you agree to follow-up interviews.

**HOW WILL RESULTS BE USED:** The results of the study will be used in research reports that may be published in scholarly journals and books, or presented at professional conferences. The research may be the basis of policy recommendations. In these reports every effort will be made to keep the confidentiality of the participants while accurately representing their words and their conditions. Pseudonyms and other methods will be used to anonymize you and any personal information about you.

TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD	
Protocol #	<u>10-260</u>
Consent form approved until	<u>5-26-11</u>
IRB Signature	<u>MB</u>

Teachers College, Columbia University  
INFORMED CONSENT -SYSTEMATIC OBSERVATIONS

**DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH:** You are invited to participate in an exploratory research study of people and institutions involved in education outside of schools in your community. The goal is to highlight the extent of this informal education as it is provided in many different places: in after-school clubs, churches, mosques, support groups, online groups, parks, stores, etc., as well as families, groups of peers, etc.

You have been selected because you are active in New York City, whether as someone who lives there, or someone who works there. You have also been selected because you agreed earlier to be observed and expressed interest in helping us further with our research. In order to understand in greater detail how you and the people closest to you educate each other in the course of your everyday life, we are asking for your permission to visit your home or accompany you on outings at times when other adults and children are also present. At these times we will make general observations as so that we are least disruptive. We will take notes. We may also ask for permission to video-tape short segments of the event.

The research will be conducted by the members of the research team that you have gotten to know.

**RISKS AND BENEFITS:** The risks associated with this study are similar to those one may experience when guests visit that one does not know very well: small disruptions that require the guest to be instructed as to what (not) to do, or mild embarrassment at the behavior of some of the other people present.

There will be no direct benefits to you. Because of our links to various institutions, we may be able to help, in a limited fashion, with access to some of their programs. There may be an indirect benefit to your community if the research is successful in making its strengths more noticeable to those who impact it. There will be no consequence to you if you decide not to participate or to participate only partially.

**DATA STORAGE TO PROTECT CONFIDENTIALITY:** The notes taken during the interviews and observations, as well as all tape recordings, will be kept in a locked cabinet at Teachers College, as well as on password-protected computer directories. No one but the members of the team will have access to these.

**TIME INVOLVEMENT:** Your initial participation will take approximately a few hours over possibly a few days or weeks.

**HOW WILL RESULTS BE USED:** The results of the study will be used in research reports that may be published in scholarly journals and books, or presented at professional conferences. The research may be the basis of policy recommendations. In these reports every effort will be made to keep the confidentiality of the participants while accurately representing their words and their conditions. Pseudonyms and other methods will be used to anonymize you and any personal information about you.

TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD	
Protocol #	<u>10-268</u>
Consent form approved until	<u>5-26-11</u>
IRB Signature	<u>Alb</u>