

Teachers College, Columbia University

INFORMED CONSENT

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 by such institutions as churches, mosques, after-school clubs, social welfare agencies, etc.

You have been selected because of your role as leader or staff member in one of these institutions. You will be asked questions about the history of your institution and its educational programs; about their organization, staffing, and audience; about the relationship of your institution with its local community and the broader city. 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.

If you agree, we will also ask you for permission to collect material from some of your programs and observe them briefly. These observations would take a few hours over a day or two and would not disrupt the flow of the activities.

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 or your institution. 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.

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 and other observations in your institution.

HOW WILL RESULTS BE USED: The results of the study will be used in research reports that would 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.

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PARTICIPANT'S RIGHTS

Principal Investigator: **Hervé Varenne**

Research Title: **An exploratory ethnography of education an inner city neighborhood**

- I have read and discussed the Research Description with the researcher. I have had the opportunity to ask questions about the purposes and procedures regarding this study.
- My participation in research is voluntary. I may refuse to participate or withdraw from participation at any time without jeopardy.
- The researcher may withdraw me from the research at his/her professional discretion.
- If, during the course of the study, significant new information that has been developed becomes available which may relate to my willingness to continue to participate, the investigator will provide this information to me.
- Any information derived from the research project that personally identifies me will not be voluntarily released or disclosed without my separate consent, except as specifically required by law.
- If at any time I have any questions regarding the research or my participation, I can contact the investigator, who will answer my questions. The investigator's phone number is (212) 678-3190
- If at any time I have comments, or concerns regarding the conduct of the research or questions about my rights as a research subject, I should contact the Teachers College, Columbia University Institutional Review Board /IRB. The phone number for the IRB is (212) 678-4105. Or, I can write to the IRB at Teachers College, Columbia University, 525 W. 120<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY, 10027, Box 151.
- I should receive a copy of the Research Description and this Participant's Rights document.
- If video and/or audio taping is part of this research, I ( ) consent to be audio/video taped. I ( ) do NOT consent to being video/audio taped. The written, video and/or audio taped materials will be viewed only by the principal investigator and members of the research team.
- Short segments of the written, video and/or audio taped materials ( ) may be viewed in university classrooms, meetings of professional associations or other similar settings  
  
( ) may NOT be viewed in an educational setting outside the research.
- My signature means that I agree to participate in this study.

Participant's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Investigator's Verification of Explanation

I certify that I have carefully explained the purpose and nature of this research to \_\_\_\_\_ (participant's name) in age-appropriate language. He/She has had the opportunity to discuss it with me in detail. I have answered all his/her questions and he/she provided the affirmative agreement (i.e. assent) to participate in this research.

Investigator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_