

# THE N STUDY

## Informed Consent Form

### The Ohio State University Consent to Participate in Research

<b>Study Title:</b>	The ON Survey: Online Negativity & LGBTQ+ Youth
<b>Protocol Number:</b>	2019B0328
<b>Researcher:</b>	Dr. Lauren McInroy
<b>Sponsor:</b>	The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

**This is a consent form for research participation.** It contains important information about this research study and what to expect if you decide to participate.

**Your participation is voluntary.** Please think about the information in this form carefully. If you want—feel free to ask us questions before deciding about whether or not you want to participate (**Email Me:** [mcinroy.1@osu.edu](mailto:mcinroy.1@osu.edu)). If you decide to participate, you will be asked to electronically sign this form.

You may leave the survey at any time. If you decide to stop participating, there will be no consequence to you, and you will not lose any benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. Your decision will not affect your future relationship with The Ohio State University.

**Purpose.** This research study is trying to understand LGBTQ+ young peoples' daily experiences with negativity and discrimination online, and how they deal with those experiences. This study also wants to better understand the potential consequences of these experiences on LGBTQ+ young peoples' mental health and wellbeing. What we find out will be used to help develop supports for young people struggling with the online hostility they experience.

#### **Criteria to Participate.**

- Currently be age 14 – 24
- Identify as LGBTQ+
- Live in the United States, Canada, or the United Kingdom
- Use the Internet

#### **Tasks & Duration:**

After you sign this consent form, you will be asked to complete a brief 30 – 45 minute survey about yourself and your experiences as a LGBTQ+ young person online. ***You do not have to answer any questions that you do not want to answer.*** There are just a few required questions, so we know you fit the study requirements and are a real person.

During the survey you will be asked if you would like to participate in an interview. If you say ‘yes’—that you are interested in participating in an interview—and you are selected to be interviewed, a member of the Research Team will reach out using the email address you give us with more information. By indicating that you are interested in participating in an interview, you agree to be contacted using the email address you provide by the Research Team. You can change your mind about participating in an interview at any time.

You may leave the study at any time. If you decide to stop participating in the study, there will be no penalty to you, and you will not lose any benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. Your decision will not affect your future relationship with The Ohio State University.

### **Risks and Benefits:**

There are some risks to your participation. You may become upset talking about your past experiences with negativity and discrimination online. You are always able to take a break or stop taking the survey at any time. Links to resources to support you are available at the start and end of the survey.

There are also benefits to your participation. You may feel good about sharing your experiences and expertise with the researchers. You will also be contributing to society generally through your participation in the study, providing new and important knowledge for mental health and health providers (like social workers and guidance counsellors) about online experiences and contributing to the development of resources for LGBTQ+ youth who need support.

### **Confidentiality:**

We will work to make sure that no one sees your online responses without approval. But, because we are using the Internet, there is a chance that someone could access your online responses without permission. In some cases, this information could be used to identify you. Once we receive it, your information will be stored securely according to The Ohio State University data storage protocols.

Also, there may be circumstances where this information must be released. For example, personal information regarding your participation in this study may be disclosed if required by state law. Also, your records may be reviewed by the following groups (as applicable to the research):

- Office for Human Research Protections or other federal, state, or international regulatory agencies;
- The Ohio State University Institutional Review Board or Office of Responsible Research Practices;

- The sponsor, if any, or agency (including the Food and Drug Administration for FDA-regulated research) supporting the study.

### **Future Research:**

You agree that our de-identified (aka. anonymous) information may be used or shared with other researchers without your additional informed consent.

### **Gift Card Raffle:**

The compensation for participation in the survey is an entry into a raffle for one of forty (40 x \$25.00 USD) e-gift cards to Amazon. If you live in Canada or the United Kingdom, and win a gift card, the value will be equivalent to \$25.00 USD on the day it is processed. You only have to enter the raffle if you want to. The odds of receiving a gift card are approximately 1 in 10.

By law, payments to participants are considered taxable income.

### **Participant Rights:**

You may refuse to participate in this study without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. If you are a student or employee at Ohio State, your decision will not affect your grades or employment status.

If you choose to participate in the study, you may discontinue participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits. By agreeing to participate, you do not give up any personal legal rights you may have as a participant in this study.

An Institutional Review Board responsible for human subjects research at The Ohio State University reviewed this research project and found it to be acceptable, according to applicable state and federal regulations and University policies designed to protect the rights and welfare of participants in research.

### **Contacts and Questions:**

For questions, concerns, or complaints about the study, questions about any parts of this consent form, or if you feel you have been harmed as a result of study participation, you may contact Dr. Lauren McInroy ([mcinroy.1@osu.edu](mailto:mcinroy.1@osu.edu)).

For questions about your rights as a participant in this study or to discuss other study-related concerns or complaints with someone who is not part of the research team, you may contact the Office of Responsible Research Practices at 1-800-678-6251 or [hsconcerns@osu.edu](mailto:hsconcerns@osu.edu).

### **Inclusion Criteria Questions**

1. How old are you?  
Under Age 14

Individual Ages Listed [14 – 24]  
Over Age 24

3. Do you feel that you identify in the spectrum of LGBTQ+ identities (e.g., as lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, transgender, gender non-conforming, non-binary, genderqueer, two-spirit, or any other sexual and/or gender minority identity) or as a member of the LGBTQ+ community? We know that this list is incomplete, we'll ask you more specific questions in the survey.

Yes

No

Other (Tell us more in the survey!)

3. Please select the Country you currently live in:

United States of America

Canada

England

Northern Ireland

Scotland

Wales

Other

### Signing the Consent Form

I have read this form and I know that I am being asked to participate in a research study I have had the opportunity to ask questions and have had them answered to my satisfaction. I voluntarily agree to participate in this study.

I am not giving up any legal rights by signing this form. I know that if I wish, I can keep a copy of this form. To print or save a copy, select the print button on your web browser. Or you can download a copy of this form [Here](#). [Link to PDF Download]

By clicking 'I Agree to Participate', I agree to participate in an online survey about my experiences of being a LGBTQ+ young person online. I agree that I have fully read this form, and that I agree to participate in the research study. I also know that clicking is equivalent to signing my name as I would on a paper form, and that I am waiving the requirement of providing a physical signature.

**Please click the 'I agree to Participate' button below to proceed and participate in this study. If you do not wish to participate, please click the 'I Do Not Agree to Participate' button below or close out your browser window.**

[CAPTCHA VERIFICATION]

I Agree to Participate
I Do Not Agree to Participate