

Consent to be Part of a Research Study

Title of the Project: **Life in the City Study**
Principal Investigator: Jacqueline Mattis, Ph.D., University of Michigan

Invitation to be Part of a Research Study

You are invited to participate in a research study. In order to participate, you must live in a city. Taking part in this research project is voluntary. The goal of the study is to understand how living in cities affects people. Please take time to read this entire form and ask questions before deciding whether to take part in this research project.

What will happen if you take part in this study?

If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to complete an online survey. The survey will take 45-50 minutes to complete. At the end of the survey you will be asked if you would like to participate in a face-to-face individual interview. Interviews will be conducted in a private setting where you cannot be heard by others. The interview will last 90-120 minutes and will be audio-recorded.

How could you benefit from this study?

Although you will not directly benefit from being in this study, others might benefit because the data will be used to better understand how events and experiences that happen in cities affect people's emotional well-being.

What risks might result from being in this study?

There may be some risk of discomfort from participation in this research. Many people enjoy reflecting on and talking about how they think feel and act. Yet, it is possible that you may experience discomfort reflecting on and talking about your thoughts. The likelihood of this risk is very low. If something does bother you, we will provide you with a list of resources for professionals who may be able to help you to address your concerns. In addition, interviews are recorded and data are stored electronically. As such there is a risk of breach of confidentiality.

How will we protect your information?

Surveys: Online surveys will not include your name or any identifying information. Each survey will be assigned a randomly generated ID number. *Interviews:* We will protect the confidentiality of interview data by transcribing interviews, removing any identifying information, and using pseudonyms. In addition, each interviewee will be given a randomly assigned ID number. That number (rather than names) will be used to identify interviews and other data. These data will be stored in password protected files. Your name and any other information that can directly identify you will be stored on encrypted password protected external drives and will be kept in a locked storage unit in a locked office separate from other data collected as part of the project.

We plan to publish the results of this study. Data will be aggregated in published reports. To protect your privacy, we will not include any information that could directly identify you.

It is possible that other people may need to see the information we collect about you. These people work for the University of Michigan and are responsible for making sure the research is done safely and properly.

What will happen to the information we collect about you after the study is over?

We will store your data for record keeping. Survey data with ID numbers will be stored in password protected files. Audio-recordings of interviews will be securely stored at the University of Michigan on an

encrypted, password protected drive, which will be stored in a locked file cabinet. A written word-for-word transcript of the interviews will be created. As soon as this process is complete, the audiorecordings will be destroyed. Your name and any other identifying information will be secured and stored separately from your research data at the University of Michigan.

We may share your research data with other investigators without asking for your consent again, but it will not contain information that could directly identify you.

How will we compensate you for being part of the study?

You will receive \$10 for completing the survey and \$30 for completing the interview. **No incentive will be provided to subjects who withdraw prematurely from the study.**

Your Participation in this Study is Voluntary

It is totally up to you to decide to be in this research study. Participating in this study is voluntary. Even if you decide to be part of the study now, you may change your mind and stop at any time. You do not have to answer any questions you do not want to answer. If you decide to withdraw before this study is completed your data (i.e., prescreening information, and any interview recordings) will be deleted.

Contact Information for the Study Team and Questions about the Research

If you have questions about this research, you may contact **Dr. Jacqueline Mattis, jmattis@umich.edu, 734-615-3985.**

Contact Information for Questions about Your Rights as a Research Participant

If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, or wish to obtain information, ask questions, or discuss any concerns about this study with someone other than the researcher(s), please contact the following:

University of Michigan
Health Sciences and Behavioral Sciences Institutional Review Board
2800 Plymouth Road
Building 520, Room 1169
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2800
Phone: (734) 936-0933 or toll free, (866) 936-0933
Email: irbhsbs@umich.edu

Your Consent

By signing this document, you are agreeing to be in this study. Please make sure you understand what the study is about before you sign. We will give you a copy of this document for your records. We will keep a copy with the study records. If you have any questions about the study after you sign this document, you can contact the study team using the information provided above.

I understand what the study is about and my questions so far have been answered. I agree to take part in this study.

Printed Subject Name

Signature

Date