

San Diego State University
INFORMED CONSENT FORM
Consent form version date: December 2021

Approved
SDSU IRB
18-Jan-2022

Community Responses to City-Sanctioned Homeless Encampment Sweeps in Los Angeles, CA

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Principal Investigator:

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IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THIS STUDY

We are inviting you to join a research study. The purpose of the research is to understand the experiences of people who have stayed in an encampment and/or advocate for the unhoused in Los Angeles, relating to city encampment sweeps and community responses. Our goal is to develop recommendations for improvements to current sanitation efforts to ensure they are non-punitive and safe for all, including encampment residents.

Participation involves an interview that will be about one hour long. The interview questions ask you about your daily living activities, any advocacy work you do, and your views on city sweeps and grassroots efforts.

The reasons you may want to participate are to have your voice heard and to share experiences that may help inform practices to benefit unhoused people living in Los Angeles, CA.

The reasons you may not want to participate are the time it takes and the possibility that some questions may bring up unpleasant feelings, such as your experiences during sweeps and encounters with police.

Please read the description carefully and ask us any questions that will help you decide whether you want to join this study. If you join the study, we will give you a signed copy of this form to keep for future reference.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS STUDY? We want to understand what people experience during encampment sweeps and grassroots alternatives, what works well, and what does not work well in these efforts.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT IF I JOIN THIS RESEARCH STUDY? The interview will last one hour.

WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO IN THIS RESEARCH STUDY?

We will ask you some questions to determine your eligibility. If you are eligible, we will ask you to participate in an interview and schedule an interview. If you are not eligible, your contact information will be destroyed. The interview will last one hour and can take place in person or on a telephone/video call.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS OR DISCOMFORTS INVOLVED IN THE RESEARCH?

There is minimal risk likely to occur from your participation in this study and the risks are deemed no greater than those that occur in everyday life. The main risk is a psychological one—that you may feel some discomfort, anxiety, or frustration about some interview topics. For example, we are going to ask you about police encounters, which may remind you of a negative experience that you, or someone you know, had. You can skip any questions or stop participating at any time. If any questions cause you distress, you may contact the free Mental Health ACCESS Center at (800) 854-7771, 24/7.

ARE THERE ANY BENEFITS TO PARTICIPATION?

There are no benefits for participating in this research; however, by participating you are helping to provide

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information that may benefit unhoused people living across Los Angeles, as well as social science in general.

ARE THERE ANY ALTERNATIVES TO JOINING THIS STUDY? The only alternative is to not participate.

WILL MY INFORMATION BE PRIVATE?

Your anonymity will be maintained to the extent allowed by law. However, we are required to report suspected child or elder abuse to the appropriate agencies. We don't expect those issues will be topics in our interviews.

I will not keep any identifiable information, like your name or phone number, beyond the scheduling process. Audio recording files will be destroyed as soon as a full transcription is completed. Research records will be stored and password-protected on a computer folder in Google Drive. Participants will not have access to review or edit the notes prior to publication. Data will be destroyed five years after the end of this study.

We will use the information we learn for published articles or for presentations to other researchers. We will keep your information private. Others will not be able to identify you in those papers or presentations.

DO I HAVE TO JOIN THIS STUDY?

You do not have to participate in this study. If you do not participate, there is no penalty. If you participate, you may stop participating at any time. You will still receive the full incentive if you do not complete the full interview.

WILL I BE TOLD ABOUT THE RESEARCH RESULTS?

We will not contact you with the results after this study is completed. However, the results will be included in a master's thesis, and other reports and scholarly articles within five years of the conclusion of the study.

WILL IT COST ME ANYTHING TO BE IN THE RESEARCH? No.

WILL I BE PAID IF I JOIN THE RESEARCH? Yes, you will receive a \$20 gift card for your participation.

WHOM DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

If you have questions now, please ask. If you have questions later, you may contact Nicolas Gutierrez at ngutierrez0200@sdsu.edu. If you have any questions about your rights as a participant, you may contact the Human Research Protection Program at San Diego State University: 619-594-6622 or irb@sdsu.edu

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE:

The San Diego State University Institutional Review Board has approved this consent form as signified by the Board's stamp. The choice to sign this consent document is yours because the IRB determined that the risk of your participation in this research is no more than you would face in everyday life and you are not asked to do anything in this study that would normally require a signed consent form outside of a research study. While signing this form is not required for participation, if you choose to sign, your participation will be kept confidential. Your signature below indicates that you agree to be in the study and have been told that you can stop participating at any time. It also indicates that you have read the document and had a chance to ask any questions about the study. The investigator has provided you with a copy of this consent form with information about whom to contact if you have questions.

Signature of Participant (**signing is optional and not required**)

Date