

Participant Information Sheet for a Research Project
Pro-seminar in Knowledge Media Design – Participant Information Sheet

This research involving the observation of people in public settings is being carried out for the Pro-seminar in Knowledge Media Design, a graduate level course at the University of Toronto in the Knowledge Media design Institute, housed in the Faculty of Information.

What will I be asked to do?

- Participation in this research involves carrying on with your usual activities in public places and/or using technology in everyday life. The student researchers in this project are typically observing situations without your knowledge in public settings. If you are reading this information sheet, you have become aware of the project.

Who are the participants in this project?

- Participants are anticipated to be Canadian residents who are over the age of 18
- *Participation is voluntary and you may withdraw without penalty or choose to skip any parts of the research which you are uncomfortable with*

How are anonymity and confidentiality addresses?

- This research may involve note taking where students are not to record any personally identifying information (i.e. the names of people observed)
- Notes will be stored by students and destroyed 6 months after the class finishes

How will this research be shared?

- Data including paraphrased observations or quotes from field notes may be used in student assignments (written or audio visual)

What are the risks/benefits?

- Risks are perceived to be minimal: they could however include embarrassment about being observed
- Benefits may include that you contribute to the learning experience of a student – student projects in this course center around trying to imagine better implementations of technology that reflect real world experiences and emphasize a value (i.e. *fairness, dignity, etc.*).

Is there any compensation for my time?

- No compensation will be provided

Who can I contact for more information

- If you have any concerns regarding this project you can contact the course instructor at: (416) 946-5366 or karen.louise.smith@utoronto.ca
- Regarding your rights as a participant in research you may also contact: the Ethics Review Office, 416-946-3273 or ethics.review@utoronto.ca

How can I withdraw from the research?

- If you wish to withdraw from this project, please let the students know immediately and they should strike or delete all data involving you. You may also contact their instructor with follow up questions and concerns.

*A copy of this form is available for your reference
Thank you for your time*