CONSENT

Please read this consent agreement carefully before you decide to participate in the study.

Study Title: Lived Experiences during COVID-19 among Adults living in Southeastern US

Purpose of the research study: The purpose of this study is to learn more about how communities promote health. The outbreak of the coronavirus (also referred to as COVID-19), has resulted in many changes to daily life including adoption of health habits to stop the spread of COVID-19. The goal of this study is to give voice to lived experiences during COVID-19 that are often overlooked and to raise awareness about the community practices and responses that do and do not work. We are interested in learning about decision-making around health for Black and White and sexual minority – those that identify as queer, lesbian, bisexual, pansexual, same-gender-loving, etc. – people. This study is part of a larger study where we are examining policy, community, and social factors that shape our decisions about health.

What you will do in the study: One interview will be conducted. You will be asked questions about your daily life, attitudes about COVID-19, actions you are taking, experiences with discrimination, and community responses. The interview will be audio-recorded and/or video-recorded (via Zoom) with your permission. The interview will be conducted at a quiet, private place and time agreed upon by you and the researcher using internet video or by telephone. You do not have to have your camera on during the interview. There are no right or wrong answers to the questions you will be asked, and you can skip any question.

Time required: The interview will take about **60 minutes** of your time.

Benefits and Payment: Although, this study does not offer direct benefits, you will be contributing to the significant gaps that exist in our understanding about community responses and experiences during COVID-19. As a token of appreciation, you will receive a gift card in the amount of $40.00. If you choose to withdraw from the study, you will still receive full compensation.

Risks to you: There are no anticipated risks beyond what you can expect from normal daily conversation about one's life. It is possible that some of the questions ask about your mood and feelings that may make you experience discomfort or stress, but no more than you would experience in typical daily life.

Right to withdraw from the study: You have the right to withdraw from (or stop) the study at any time without penalty to you. If you choose to withdraw, your incomplete responses will not be used or analyzed. If you would like to withdraw after your materials have been submitted, please contact us using the study's email at **covidconversations@virginia.edu**.

How to withdraw from the study: If you want to withdraw (or stop) from the study, you may do so at any time by telling the interviewer to stop the interview. There is no penalty for withdrawing. Your incomplete responses will not be used.

Confidentiality: All information shared is confidential. All forms will be kept in a locked office. Only the researchers will have access to your information. If you agree, your interview will be audio-recorded and transcribed. The written version of the recording will be kept in a separate location and the audio version will be kept on a password-protected external hard drive. When writing reports, we may quote some of what you say but will never use your real name, the names of any others that you may talk about, or any other identifying information. The recoded audio/video will be destroyed at the end of the study. The information that you give in the study will not affect your ability to receive services, medical care, or assistance.

Voluntary participation: Your participation in the study is completely voluntary. If you are currently incarcerated or under the age of 18, you should not participate.

Using data beyond this study: The confidential data from this study will be retained for 5 years after research publication in accordance with research guidelines. This study is part of a larger study where we are examining policy, community, and social factors that shape our decisions about health. De-identified data will be analyzed by the researchers separate from and together with a larger, anonymous survey data but no personally identifying information will be shared. Quotes from the study may be used in research publications and public dissemination materials, but no personally identifying information will be included.

If you have questions about the study, contact:

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To obtain more information about the study, ask questions about the research procedures, express concerns about your participation, or report illness, injury or other problems, please contact:

Tonya R. Moon, Ph.D.
Chair, Institutional Review Board for the Social and Behavioral Sciences
One Morton Dr Suite 500
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Website for Research Participants: https://research.virginia.edu/research-participants

UVA IRB-SBS # 4418

You may keep this copy of the consent form for your records.

Prior to the start, do you agree to have this interview audio-recorded? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you agree to participate in the research study described above? ☐ Yes ☐ No

[*Electronic Signature Only*]

Participant's Permission: I have read and understand this document. By signing below or giving verbal consent, I agree to participate in the research study described above.

Printed Name _____ Date ___ / ___ / ____

Signature _____

[*Verbal Consent Only*]

Researcher Affirmation: I, the researcher, affirm that informed consent was given prior to the start of the interview. The participant agreed to participate in the study described above.

Printed Name _____ Date ___ / ___ / ___

Signature _____