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|  | **PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FOR QUT RESEARCH PROJECT**  **– Interviews and logbook –** |
| **Investigating the critical literacy practices of young Australians from migrant backgrounds: Experiencing storied life in an additional language.**  **QUT Ethics Approval Number 6721** | |

**Research team**

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| **School of Teacher Education and Leadership**  **Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice Faculty, Queensland University of Technology (QUT)** | |

**Why is the study being conducted?**

This research project is being undertaken as part of a Doctorate of Philosophy. The purpose is to investigate how young people like yourself – migrant background youth aged 16-19 years who are learning English – read and view texts with a critical eye in everyday settings, outside of school.

By “texts” we mean more than just the written word on a page. Texts can include anything you read or view e.g., websites, blogs, news feeds, YouTube, social media, films, novels, magazines, etc. By “with a critical eye”, we mean thinking about those texts critically to work out if what they are saying is true and can be trusted, and how they invite you to think in certain ways. You already do this kind of thing in Year 10 English in school, so we are interested to know you read critically, outside of school.

In our digital age filled with instant information and misinformation, taking a critical approach to your everyday use of texts is essential. Our interest is to develop deeper understandings about the types of texts that you regularly use and how you use them in your everyday life, outside of school.

You are invited to participate in this research project because you are a user of English as an additional language and are completing Year 10 or above in 2023.

**What does participation involve?**

Participation involves four interviews recorded via Zoom videoconferencing software and keeping a logbook about your text use.

Interviews will run in mid 2023, occurring once every 2 weeks in a quiet space at your home, community group facility, or other agreed location, and take approximately 45 minutes of your time. The logbook will document your text use that we will discuss during interviews 2, 3 and 4. The first interview will take approximately 1 hour to allow time for us to walk through how to use the logbook and look at what is meant by G rated texts. A definition is also in provided in this document.

In the logbook you will record a minimum of ONE entry per week and document ONE screenshot / image capture per week of a “G” rated text you would like to discuss with a minimum of TWO per fortnight. You may choose to log more than this. The logbook will be completed digitally in a .docx file format and be emailed to me on the last day of each two-week period, prior to the associated interview. The screenshot/image captures will be in .jpg or .png file formats and will also be attached to the email. Exact dates will be agreed upon once your participation in this project has been confirmed.

In this study we will discuss the types of the texts and their content, that you use in everyday settings. We ask that you only choose “G” rated topics to focus on. You are probably familiar with the term “G- rated” from TV and movies. According to the Australian Classification System the “G” classification is suitable for audiences of all ages. The content is very mild in impact and contains language and themes that are very mild in impact. It means that the content is suitable to be seen by children and contains no violence, no offensive language, no sexual activity, or anything that might be against the law.

Interview 1 questions include:

* Could you tell me about the types of texts you use outside-of-school?
* What do you think it means when we talk about being ‘critical’ when approaching texts?
* Could you tell me about a time you found it important to be critical with texts?

Interviews 2, 3 and 4 questions include:

* Let’s look at the first logbook entry and image capture/screenshot, do you like using this text?
* Can you please tell me about why you do/don’t like using this text?
* What is the author’s position on the topic?
* How can you tell they have this position?

Logbook questions include:

* Did you capture an image or screenshot of the text? (y/n)
* Were you critical when you used this text (y/n)
* What did you think and feel when reading/viewing or writing/creating the text?

Before consenting, please consider whether a quiet space for the duration of the interviews is going to be possible in the home/interview location. Also consider whether the types of texts you read are G-rated as discussing these topics only is a requirement of your participation.

Your participation in this research project is entirely voluntary. If you do agree to participate you can withdraw from the research project at any time without comment or penalty. If you withdraw within four weeks after your initial interview, any information already obtained may be destroyed upon request. After this time data will have been deidentified and analysis will have begun, therefore it may no longer be possible to remove the data from the study.

In no way will your decision to participate or not participate will impact your current or future relationship with QUT, your community organisation or your school.

**What are the possible benefits for me if I take part?**

Each participant will receive a $50 gift voucher to be used in-store or online at Dymock’s Book and Gifts at the completion of data collection. This is in recognition of the commitment that undertaking this project requires on top of your usual commitments. You may also learn some tips about how to read texts critically outside-of-school.

**What are the possible risks for me if I take part?**

There are minimal risks associated with your participation in this research project. These are listed below and will be managed in the following way:

*Coercion – Interviews and Logbook*: Your participation is purely voluntary and participating or not participating will not affect your relationships with your community organisation, your peers, or QUT. You are between 16 and 19 years old and therefore at an age when making your own informed decisions to participate in events is respected.

*Inconvenience* *- Interviews:* You will need to commit to one 60-minute and three 45-minute interviews in your own time, in mid 2023. To lessen the inconvenience, the series of interviews will take place via Zoom and be at a time and location of your choosing and will avoid times when you may be busy with other things such as school or work.

*Inconvenience* *- Logbook:* The logbook will be completed over period of 6 weeks. In it you will record a minimum of ONE entry per week which includes ONE screenshot or image capture for us to discuss during the associated interview. This will take a few minutes per entry. To lessen the inconvenience we have requested one entry per week but you may choose to log more than this.

*Discomfort - Interviews*: Discomfort may occur due to the use of video during the online meeting. Using video allows us to see each other and interact naturally in the interview while you are located comfortably in your own setting of choice without me physically there. To minimise any discomfort, you may choose not to turn on your camera. Only the audio recording will be kept and used to transcribe the interview. Only the named research team will have access to the audio, and it will be stored securely following QUT’s strict data storage protocols. You can withdraw from participation if you feel uncomfortable. If you withdraw prior to, during and within 4 weeks of data collection commencing you may request that any identifiable data collected up to that point be destroyed.

*Disclosure - Interviews*: No video footage will be retained. Only parts of the audio that are of interest to answering the research questions will be transcribed and will not be used for anything other than the research project. Your interview data will be given pseudonyms (false names) at the point of transcription to de-identify you. You will be asked to sit in a quiet place with a neutral background, and to close all tabs on your browser before we commence the interviews.

*Disclosure - Logbook:* The logbook data will use the pseudonym assigned to your interview data. Any other identifying information which is recorded in the logbook (e.g. the name of a website) will be de-identified prior to data analysis.

QUT provides limited free psychology or counselling services (face-to-face or online) for research participants of QUT research projects who may experience discomfort or distress because of their participation in the research. Should you wish to access this service please call the Clinic Receptionist on **07 3138 0999** (Monday–Friday only 9am–5pm), QUT Psychology and Counselling Clinic, 44 Musk Avenue, Kelvin Grove, and indicate that you are a research participant. Alternatively, Lifeline provides access to online, phone or face-to-face support, call **13 11 14** for 24-hour telephone crisis support. As you are under 25, you can also call the Kids Helpline on **1800 551 800**.

**What about privacy and confidentiality?**

All comments and responses are coded i.e., it will be possible to re-identify you. A re-identifying code stored separately to personal information (e.g., name and community organisation) will only be accessible to the named research team, and the code, plus any identifying information, will be destroyed at the end of the project.

Any personal information that could potentially identify you will be removed or changed before files are shared with other researchers or results are made public. The information that will be removed includes names, initials, your community organisation and any other organisations you may refer to.

Any data collected as part of this research project will be stored securely as per QUT’s Management of Research Data policy. Data will be stored for 5 years and can be disclosed if it is to protect you or others from harm, if specifically required by law, or if a regulatory or monitoring body such as the ethics committee requests it.

As the research project involves a recording:

* It is NOT possible to participate in the research project without being audio recorded.
* Only the named researchers will have access to the recordings.
* The recording will be retained for 5 years after the last research activity.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the data you provide cannot be traced back to you in reports, publications and other forms of presentation. For example, we will only include the relevant part of a quote, we will not use any names, or names will be changed, and/or details such as dates and specific circumstances will be excluded. Nevertheless, while unlikely, it is possible that if you are quoted directly your identity may become known.

The research project is funded by a Queensland University of Technology Postgraduate Research Award, however no one outside of the named research team will have access to the raw or de-identified data obtained during the project.

**How do I give my consent to participate?**

We would like to ask you to check and sign a consent form (enclosed) to confirm your agreement to participate. This may be done digitally or in hard copy.

**What if I have questions about the research project?**

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact one of the listed researchers:

Ms. Rowena Wall [rz.wall@hdr.qut.edu.au](mailto:rz.wall@hdr.qut.edu.au) 3138 3322

Assoc. Prof. Theresa Bourke [theresa.bourke@qut.edu.au](mailto:theresa.bourke@qut.edu.au) 3138 3289

Dr. Michelle Jeffries [m.jeffries@qut.edu.au](mailto:m.jeffries@qut.edu.au) 3138 3322

Assoc. Prof. Jennifer Alford [jh.alford@qut.edu.au](mailto:jh.alford@qut.edu.au)

**What if I have a concern or complaint regarding the conduct of the research project?**

QUT is committed to research integrity and the ethical conduct of research projects. If you wish to discuss the study with someone not directly involved, particularly in relation to matters concerning policies, information or complaints about the conduct of the study or your rights as a participant, you may contact the QUT Research Ethics Advisory Team on +61 7 3138 5123 or email [humanethics@qut.edu.au](mailto:humanethics@qut.edu.au).

**Thank you for helping with this research project. Please keep this sheet for your information.**