

S A M P L E 1
PLEASE MODIFY TO FIT YOUR STUDY

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

Invitation to Participate

(Name), a researcher (Students must state: A student/graduate student) at Spelman College, is conducting a study on student residential life. You are invited to participate in this study because you live in one of the student residences located on the Spelman campus.

Purpose

This study has two objectives:

1. To better understand how students attach meaning to everyday interpersonal interactions with roommates and others within the resident complex.
2. To better understand how the mediation process can resolve conflicts should they occur.

Description of Procedures

You will be interviewed either individually or in groups. The conversational style interview will take approximately one to two hours and, with your permission, will be audio or videotaped. In addition to the interview, you may be asked to complete a five-question survey about your campus residential life. The interviews will take place in a private conference room located in The Suites residence hall.

Risks

There are minimal risks attached to this study. [STATE SPECIFICALLY THE RISKS TO PARTICIPANTS AS LISTED IN YOUR PROTOCOL] Your interview and survey responses will be kept confidential; available only to the research team for analysis purposes. You may stop the interview at any time or decline to answer questions without any consequence to you.

Benefits

[DO NOT MENTION \$\$\$ HERE] Although there is no direct benefit to you for participating in this study, we feel your participation will likely benefit Spelman's residential community in the future.

Economic Considerations/Incentives

[IF NONE, DELETE THIS SECTION] For participating in this study, you will receive a gift card worth \$10 toward purchases at the Spelman Bookstore.

Confidentiality

Interview videotapes will be locked in a safe place and will be destroyed after completion of the study. Only the research team will listen and transcribe the information you give us. Videotapes will not be used in any public presentation.

Interview responses will not be linked to your name or address, and there will be no follow-up sessions. However, the five-question survey you are asked to complete will have a follow-up session. So that our

research team can contact you in the future, we will link your name to a unique identification number next to it. We do this to ensure your responses remain confidential and that you feel free to respond as freely as possible. You should know that the Spelman College Institutional Review Board (IRB) may inspect study records as part of its auditing program, but these reviews only focus on the researchers and the study, not on your responses or involvement. The IRB is a committee that reviews research studies to make sure that they are safe and that the rights of the participants are protected.

Voluntary Participation

Participation is voluntary. You do not have to participate in this study if you do not want to. If you agree to be in this study, but later change your mind, you may withdraw at any time. There are no (consequences) of any kind if you decide you do not want to participate or refuse to answer some questions. (Consequences should be described where possible. i.e your class standing will not be affected if you choose not to participate.)

Future Use of Information

The information that you provide for this research project [may be OR will not be] used or distributed for future studies. [If information may be used for future studies, indicate the conditions of when, why, and how this might be done. Provide a statement ensuring removal of identifiers]

Questions

If you have any questions about this study I will be happy to answer them now. If you have any questions in the future, please contact our principal investigator [NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER]. (*Students Use: If you have questions about the study, you may direct those to the researcher, (name and phone) or the researcher's advisor/professor, (name and phone).*) If you have questions about your rights as participants in this study, you may contact Dr. Tasha Inniss, Associate Provost for Research, whose office oversees the protection of human research participants. She can be reached at 404-270-5890 or IRB@spelman.edu.

- I agree to participate in this research study.
- I agree to be videotaped for transcription purposes

Participant's Name

Date

(A participant younger than 18 may sign here only if the language level is appropriate for the child. Otherwise, a separate child assent must be used.)

Participant's Signature

Researcher's Signature