

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET & CONSENT FORM

1. Project title

Exploring restorative justice and other alternatives for youth offenders in Singapore.

2. Researcher, with the contact number and organization.

Joanna Yeo Peck Tiang

Organisation: NUS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Dept of Sociology

3. What is the purpose of this research?

The research aim is to better understand the processes and implementation of diversionary programmes and juvenile justice system for youth offenders in Singapore. We hope to learn from programme facilitators and youth offenders who experienced the juvenile justice system and explore issues they faced in the processes.

We hope the participants will share with us their perceptions and experiences. There are no right or wrong answers in this study, and all solicited opinions will be treated with strict confidence. The identity of our participants will not be reviewed, and where direct quotes are used in the report, pseudo names will be used to protect the identity of the participants.

4. Who can participate in the research? What is the expected duration of my participation? What is the duration of this research?

Youths (age 15-19) who are currently or have completed the juvenile justice programmes and facilitators involved in the restorative processes will be invited to participate in this research.

5. What is the approximate number of participants involved?

6 participants

6. What will be done if I take part in this research?

During the informal interview session, the researcher will invite participants to share their ideas, opinions and experiences on general issues relating to programmes for youth offenders in Singapore. This will last about 1.5 hours. For participants who prefer to not to share their opinions in a face-to-face session, the research will call the participants individually and discuss similar issues.

The researcher may call up participants for follow-up questions or queries if necessary. This additional feedback may be done fact-to-face, over the telephone or via e-mail, depending on the participants' expressed preference for mode of follow-up.

To ensure that analysis will be based on accurate reflections of the data, the interview sessions will be taped so that the discussions can be transcribed for detailed analysis. All the taped interviews will be destroyed once the project is completed. Participants are assured that strict confidentiality will be adhered to and no one will be identified by name in the course of the analysis. The tapes and transcribed interviews will only be accessible to the researcher.

7. How will my privacy and the confidentiality of my research records be protected?

Only the principal investigator has your identifiable information (e.g. names) and this will not be released to any other person. Identifiable information will never be used in a publication or presentation. All your identifiable information and research data will be coded (i.e. only identified with a code number) at the earliest possible stage of the research.

8. What are the possible discomforts and risks for participants?

No discomforts and risks for participants are expected in this research, therefore, there will be no compensation for any injury.

9. Will there be reimbursement for participation?

No. There will no reimbursement for participation.

10. What are the possible benefits to me and to others?

There is no direct benefit to you by participating in this research. The knowledge gained will benefit the research in this area in the future.

11. Can I refuse to participate in this research?

Yes, you can. Your decision to participate in this research is voluntary and completely up to you. You can also withdraw from the research at any time without giving any reasons, by informing the principal investigator and all your data collected will be discarded.

You should also note that you do not have to respond to all questions posed in the interviews. Participation in the discussions is strictly voluntary.

12. Whom should I call if I have any questions or problems?

Please contact the researcher Joanna Yeo for all research-related matters.

Consent Form

I hereby acknowledge that:

1. My signature is my acknowledgement that I have agreed to take part in the above research.
2. I have received a pamphlet (or a copy of this information sheet) that explains the objectives in this research. I understand its contents and agree to participate in this research.
3. I can withdraw from the research at any point of time by informing the Principal Investigator and all my data and samples will be discarded.
4. I will not have any rights to any commercial benefits that result from this research. I also agree that I will not derive any monetary or other benefits from this research.

Please tick the appropriate box:

YES NO I agree to be re-contacted for follow-up interviews.

YES NO I agree that the interview session be taped.

Name and Signature (Participant)

NRIC of participant

Date

Name and Signature (Consent Taker)

NRIC of consent taker

Date

This research has been explained to me in _____ (state language), which I understand by _____ (name of translator) on _____ (date).

Name and Signature (Translator)

NRIC of translator

Date