

Exploring Adult Playfulness Participant Information Sheet

Project title: Exploring Adult Playfulness

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You are invited to take part in a study into types of adult playfulness and the relationship of playfulness to gender, age, geographic location, and job role.

This study has received ethical approval from Durham Centre for Academic Development Ethics Committee of Durham University.

Before you decide whether to agree to take part, it is important for you to understand the purpose of the research and what is involved as a participant. Please read the following information carefully. Please get in contact if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

The rights and responsibilities of anyone taking part in Durham University research are set out in our 'Participants Charter':

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/research.innovation/governance/ethics/considerations/people/charter/>

What is the purpose of the study?

The aim of this study is to gather population data on playfulness. This will then enable us to create a baseline of how prevalent different types of playfulness are and whether there is a relationship between types of playfulness and demographic characteristics. This project is not funded externally. The project will collect and analyse data between November 2021 and January 2022. The findings from the project will be used to contribute to academic outputs and better understand the nature of playfulness in adulthood.

Why have I been invited to take part?

All adults age 18 years or over are eligible to take part in this study.

What will happen to me if I take part?

If you agree to take part in this research, you will be asked to complete a short online questionnaire, which should take around 10 minutes. It will consist of a small number of demographic questions and then will ask you the extent to which you agree with twenty-five statements. All responses are anonymous.

Do I have to take part?

Your participation is voluntary and you do not have to agree to take part. You do not have to answer any question if you prefer not to. You may stop answering the questionnaire at any time. However, if you do complete and submit the online questionnaire, and subsequently wish to withdraw, it will be impossible to identify your data because it will be anonymised.

Are there any potential risks involved?

There are very few risks involved. No questions are mandatory, and it will be possible to exit the questionnaire at any point. If you feel uncomfortable answering a question at any point you will be under no pressure to respond.

Will my data be kept confidential?

No data will be linked to personal identifying information in any way. In all reporting, data will be aggregated. All data will be stored on a secure shared cloud space, accessible only by the research team.

What will happen to the results of the project?

The complete data set will provide a baseline for playfulness in an adult population. Findings will initially be made public in the form of a book chapter, and later potentially an academic article. A final draft of the book chapter will be made available later in 2022/early 2023 to all participants who request a copy by emailing nicola.j.whitton@durham.ac.uk.

No personal data will be shared, however anonymised aggregate data may be used in publications and other outputs. At the end of the project, anonymised data may be archived and shared with others for legitimate research purposes.

All research data and records needed to validate the research findings will be stored for three years after the end of active data collection.

Who do I contact if I have any questions or concerns about this study?

If you have any further questions or concerns about this study, please speak to the researcher conducting the interview in the first instance. If you remain unhappy or wish to make a formal complaint, please submit a complaint via the University's [Complaints Process](#).

Thank you for reading this information and considering taking part in this study.