

SAMPLE CONSENT FORM

Welcome to the 2007 Healthy Expectations Follow-Up Survey!

Thank you for your interest in the 2007 Healthy Expectations follow-up survey. This is an important program, funded by the U.S. Department of Education. Your participation is essential in helping us develop programs and resources for students at Mason. You may have responded to the survey in February; if so, thank-you; we would very much like your continued involvement by responding again to this survey.

This page describes what will be required of you in this study, how the data you provide will be protected, and your rights as a research participant. Once you have read the form please click the box indicating that you have read the form and agree to participate in this study.

Research Procedures

This research is being conducted to gather data about healthy living choices, including drugs and alcohol, among George Mason University students. We are also collecting information about consequences related to alcohol use, coping strategies, and general well-being believed to reduce students' alcohol and drug use.

The data from this survey will be used to develop programs to help Mason students make healthy decisions about a range of healthy living issues, including the use of alcohol or drugs. If you agree to participate, you will be asked to complete an on-line survey.

The survey should take about 20 minutes to complete. Your participation is voluntary and your responses will be kept confidential. Your responses will be combined with all other data for statistical analyses. Please know that you are under no obligation to complete this survey, and you may quit at any time without penalty.

Risks

There are no direct risks of harm from participating in this survey. Because of the nature of the questions, it is possible that you may be uncomfortable with the questions. Further, you may experience some discomfort as you think about your alcohol use, drug use, and related health behavior in answering the questions. If you do experience any discomfort, we encourage you to contact a qualified professional. Please click here (<http://www.caph2.gmu.edu/HealthyExpectations.htm>) to link to a list of phone numbers for a variety of support services provided by Mason. This link is also provided at the end of the survey.

Benefits

There is no compensation, in the form of payment, for completing this survey. The information gathered through the survey will be used to develop programs to promote healthy living, and to reduce alcohol and drug use among Mason students and to help students with problems stemming from alcohol and drug use.

Confidentiality

The data in this study will be confidential. Each participant has been assigned a unique identifier to track the response status. Your name will never be included on the survey or the data. Your responses will be combined with all other data for statistical analysis, but not reported individually. Through the use of an identification key, the researcher will be able to link your responses to the survey to your identity. Only the researcher will have access to this key. This key is only used to send out follow-up email reminders to people who do not complete the survey. Once the data collection period has ended, the file containing the identification key will be deleted. At that time there will be no way to connect an individual and their responses. Further, the data will not be analyzed or examined until the data collection period has ended.

Participation

Your participation is voluntary, and you may withdraw from the study at any time, for any reason. If you decide not to participate or if you withdraw from the study, there is no penalty, cost, or loss of benefits to you.

After you complete the survey, you will be eligible to receive a \$3.00 Barnes and Noble gift card. After you submit your responses you will be forwarded to a webpage with instruction for getting the gift card. If you completed the survey in February, and do so again this time, you will automatically be entered into a drawing for five gift cards to the GMU bookstore (1 = \$100, 4 = \$25).

Contact

This research is being conducted by Dr. David Anderson, director of the Center for the Advancement of Public Health and Professor of Education and Human Development. The project manager is Candace S. Parham also at the Center for the Advancement of Public Health. Dr. Anderson and Ms. Parham may be reached for questions about the study or to report a research-related problem by phone at (703) 993-3697 or by email at healthyx@gmu.edu. You may contact the GMU Office of Sponsored Programs at (703) 993-2295 if you have questions or comments about your rights as a participant in the research.