**PERMISSION LETTER**



23/10/2019

Dear SGB Chair

My name is Shungu Mupfawa and I am a PhD student in the Faculty of Education at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. As part of my studies, I have to undertake a research project, and I am investigating the following topic: ***An analysis of the teachers’ Discourse when teaching basic genetics concepts in South African classrooms.*** The aim of this research project is to find out the teachers’ classroom Discourse when teaching genetics terminology in South African classrooms.

As part of this project, I would like to invite your school to take part by allowing me to observe three times, one of your teacher’s normal lessons on genetics which will be 35-45 minutes each. Can you also help me by allowing the teacher to participating in an interview which will be 20 minutes long? The interview will be conducted after school hours at a time and place that is convenient to the teacher. With your permission, I would like to record the observations with a video-recorder and interview using an audio-recorder. In this study, I may not be in a position to conduct direct classroom observations for all teachers or all classes of interest since I will also be required to teach my own grade 12 learners at that particular time. Owing to this, video recording will be used. The video recordings will be stored in a password protected computer.

Your school will not receive any direct benefits from participating in this research, and there are no disadvantages or penalties for not participating. Your school may withdraw at any time or not answer any question if you do not want to. The interview and observations will be completely confidential and anonymous as I will not be asking for your schools’ name or any identifying information, and the information you give to me as a school will be held securely and not disclosed to anyone else. I will be using a pseudonym to represent your school’s participation in my final research report.

If you have any questions during or afterwards about this research, feel free to contact me or my supervisor on the details listed below. This study will be written up as a research report which will be available online through the university library website. If you wish to receive a summary of this report, I will be happy to send it to you. If you have any concerns or complaints regarding the ethical procedures of this study, you are welcome to contact the University Human Research Ethics Committee (Non-Medical), telephone +27(0) 11 717 1408, email [Shaun.Schoeman@wits.ac.za](mailto:Shaun.Schoeman@wits.ac.za)

Yours sincerely,

**Shungu Mupfawa**



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