**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET: PARENT**



23/10/2019

Dear Sir / Madam

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 was wondering whether you would mind if I invite your child or ward to participate in three lesson observations on genetics. These lessons will be 35-45 minutes long. With your permission, I would like to record the observations with a video recorder. In this study, video recording will be used because I may not be in a position to conduct direct classroom observations for all teachers or all classes of interest. As a matric life sciences teacher, I will also be required to teach my own grade 12 learners at that particular time. The video recordings will be stored in a password protected computer.

Your child/ward will not receive any direct benefits from participating in this research, and there are no disadvantages for not participating. Your child /ward may withdraw at any time or not answer any question if he/she does not want to. The observations will be completely confidential and anonymous as I will not be asking for your child’s/ward’s name or any identifying information. The information your child/ward will give to me will be held securely and not disclosed to anyone else. I will be using a pseudonym (false name) to represent your child’s/ward’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**



Email: [744173@students.wits.ac.za](mailto:744173@students.wits.ac.za)

Cell: 0726339145

**Supervisor’s name**: Prof. Marissa Rollnick

Email: [marissarollnick@wits.ac.za](mailto:marissarollnick@wits.ac.za)

Cell: 082 374 5528