**CONSENT TO TAKE PART IN RESEARCH**

**TITLE OF STUDY:** Linguistic Attitudes and Uses of the Population of Palma de Mallorca Towards the Co-official Languages of the Balearic Islands: Catalan and Spanish

**Principal Investigator:** Alejandro Andreas Jaume Losa, M.A.T

This consent form is part of an informed consent process for a research study, and it will provide information that will help you decide whether you want to take part in this study. It is your choice to take part or not. Your alternative to taking part in the research is not to take part in it.

**Who is conducting the study and what is it about?**

You are invited to take part in a research study that is being conducted by Alejandro Andreas Jaume Losa, who is a second-year student in the Bilingualism and Second Language Acquisition PhD program in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Rutgers University (USA). The purpose of the research is to better understand the linguistic attitudes that Palma residents have towards the two official languages of the Balearic Islands: Catalan and Spanish.

Mr. Alejandro Andreas Jaume Losa may be reached at [ajaumelosa@spanport.rutgers.edu](mailto:ajaumelosa@spanport.rutgers.edu) or 848-932-9323.

**What will I be asked to do if I take part in the study?**

You will be asked to take an online questionnaire consisting of three blocks on the following topics: demographics, language use, and language attitudes. Your participation in the study will be about 15 minutes. We anticipate 100 subjects will take part in the study.

**What are the risks of harm or discomforts I might experience if I take part in the study?**

Breach of confidentiality is a risk of harm, but a data security plan is in place to minimize such a risk. Also, some questions may make you feel uncomfortable. If that happens, you can skip those questions or withdraw from the study altogether. If you decide to quit at any time before you have finished the survey your answers will NOT be recorded

**Are there any benefits to me if I choose to take part in this study?**

There are no direct benefits to you for taking part in this research. You will be contributing to knowledge about how the residents of Palma de Mallorca perceive and use the two co-official languages of the Balearic Islands.

**Will I be paid to take part in this study?**

You will be compensated 10 EUR for completing this questionnaire. After completion, you will be asked to select your preferred method of payment (PayPal or Amazon gift card) and provide your email address. You will receive an email from the researchers with information about how you will receive your selected payment within 72 hours of completion.

**How will information about me be kept private or confidential?**

As a participant in this study, you will engage in online data collection. You won't be under any direct observation. You'll have the opportunity to complete the questionnaire on your own electronic devices, at a time and pace that suits you. Before proceeding, you'll need to review the consent materials and, if you choose to participate, simply click the "I agree" button. It's important to know that you have the option to withdraw from the survey at any point without facing any penalties. Additionally, after completing the survey, you can decide whether you want your data to be deleted. The only personal information collected will be your IP address and email address. Please be aware that the IP address is collected by Qualtrics, but it is not of interest to our research. Therefore, it will be promptly deleted from your response. We want to emphasize that while we won't use this information, there is a possibility that it could be used by someone who gains unauthorized access to it. Furthermore, your email address will be collected for the sole purpose of sending you payment for your participation in the study. You will have a two-week window after completing the survey to request that your data not be used. After this period, your email address will be removed from our records. The survey data we collect will be aggregated and will only be accessible to researchers within this Institutional Review Board (IRB). This data will be stored for a minimum of six years following the final project closure, with the original primary data retained. Please note that the data collection will occur on Mr. Alejandro Andreas Jaume Losa's password-protected Qualtrics account. This data will be shared with Dr. Kendra Dickinson's Qualtrics account for oversight. During the analysis phase, the data will be downloaded and stored on the computers of both researchers, and it will remain password protected.

**What will happen to information I provide in the research after the study is over?**

After the study is over the information will be kept for some time, but at no time will any identifying information about you be revealed in any reports or publications which may result from this research. The information collected about you for this research will not be used by or distributed to investigators for other research.

The research team and the Institutional Review Board at Rutgers University are the only parties that may see the data, except as may be required by law. If the findings of this research are professionally presented or published, only group results will be stated.

**What will happen if I do not wish to take part in the study or I later decide not to stay in the study?**

It is your choice whether you take part in the research. You may choose to take part, not to take part or you may change your mind and withdraw from the study at any time. In addition, you can choose to skip questions that you are not comfortable answering.If you do not want to enter the study or decide to stop taking part, your relationship with the study staff will not change, and you may do so without penalty and without loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. Please note, however, that once you have submitted your responses, you may no longer withdraw them as we will not know which ones yours are.

If you have questions about taking part in this study, you can contact the Principal Investigator: Alejandro Andreas Jaume Losa, Department of Spanish and Portuguese (Rutgers University): [ajaumelosa@spanport.rutgers.edu](mailto:ajaumelosa@spanport.rutgers.edu) and/or 848-932-9323. You can also contact my faculty advisor Dr. Kendra Dickinson at [kendra.dickinson@rutgers.edu](mailto:kendra.dickinson@rutgers.edu).

If you have questions, concerns, problems, information or input about the research or would like to know your rights as a research subject, you can contact the Rutgers IRB or the Rutgers Human Subjects Protection Program via phone at (973) 972-3608 or (732) 235-2866 or (732) 235-9806 OR via email [irboffice@research.rutgers.edu](mailto:irboffice@research.rutgers.edu), or you can write us at 335 George Street, Liberty Plaza Suite 3200, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

Please print a copy of this consent form for your records.

If you are 18 years of age or older, understand the statements above, and consent to take part in the study, click on the "I Agree" button to begin the research.   If not, please click on the “I Do Not Agree” button which exit you from this screen/program.

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