Consent Form

Your voluntary participation is being requested in a research study entitled “An Introspective from Parents of Preschool Children with Autism”. The researcher is Jeannie A Garcia, a doctoral student at Texas State University, and may be reached by phone at 210-275-1759 or by email at elevig@earthlink.net. Dr. Duncan Waite is the advising faculty member from Texas State University and may be reached by telephone at 512-245-2304 or by email at DW26@txstate.edu.

The purpose of this study is to understand what changes, if any, a family will undergo after their child is diagnosed with autism, what their support system is, and how they receive information to better understand autism. You have been asked to participate because you have recently had a child who has been evaluated and testing showed that your child has autism. The interviews will take place at a time/place negotiated between the participants and the researcher. The procedure will include two interview sessions that will be audio recorded. Between six to ten questions will be asked during each session with each session lasting about thirty minutes each. The sessions will be about four to six weeks apart from each other.

Benefits to you, personally, are minimal. However, this research will add to the body of research which will benefit parents, teachers, and administrators as they seek to assist parents who have children with autism to learn more about the condition of autism. Potential risks are minimal and may include a possible apprehension about the diagnosis of autism in your child. Below are the names and contact information of a mental health agencies in the area if you feel the you need counseling.

Your participation in this research study is completely voluntary and you may withdraw from this study at any point without any prejudice or discrimination from the researcher or Texas State University. Any questions regarding this research and your rights as a participant may be addressed to the Institutional Review Board chairperson, Dr. Jon Lasser at 512-245-2314, or the Office of Sponsored Programs Administrator, Ms. Becky Northcut at 512-245-2102.

Your voluntary participation will be kept confidential and any information that might reveal your identity will not be included in the research results. Consent forms will be kept in a locked filing cabinet. Your name, address, telephone number and any other identifiable information will be kept confidential. Your personal information will not be included in any data collection procedures. Instead, you will have an alias in place of your name. If you desire, you will be provided with a summary statement of the findings from this research upon completion of the study.

All audio recordings and transcripts will be kept at the residence of Jeannie Garcia in a locked filing cabinet for three years after the completion of the study. At this point, the data will be destroyed.

Institutional Review Board Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Your signature below indicates your willingness to participate in this study based on the information above. You will be given a copy of this form for your records.

X \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Participant \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date

X\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Researcher \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date

el Carmen St Vincent de Paul Society  
18555 Leal St  
San Antonio, TX 78221  
(210) 626-5500

Guadalupe Community Center  
1801 W Durango Blvd  
San Antonio, TX 78207  
(210) 226-6178

Helping Hands Lifeline Foundation  
401 W Jones Ave  
San Antonio, TX 78215  
(210) 922-4280

Center For Health Care Services The  
3031 IH 10 West  
San Antonio, TX 78201  
(210) 731-1300

Mental Health Association of Greater San Antonio  
8431 Fredericksburg Road, Suite 110  
San Antonio, Texas 78229  
210-614-7566 Office