**Consent Form - IRB#2009F5128.**

***Survey***

**Conversations About Race**

Thank you for your interest in the research project, Conversations about Race. You are being asked to participate in the study to enrich the learning and working environment at Texas State University by expanding our understanding of race relations. The researchers presenting the study are Dr. Angela Ausbrooks, Assistant Professor of Social Work (512-245-2592 and aa16@txstate.edu); Dr. Sherri Benn, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Director of Multicultural Student Affairs (512-245-2278 and sb17@txstate.edu); and Dr. Barbara Trepagnier, Professor of Sociology (512-245-8054 and [bt03@txstate.edu](mailto:bt03@txstate.edu)).

The purpose of this project intends to address the questions, what are the barriers preventing this important process from occurring on college campuses and in communities across the country? And what factors aid in advancing these kinds of discussions? Our ultimate goal is to construct a model for facilitating conversations that can be used in residence halls, academic departments, and administration offices intended to foster goodwill between diverse groups. The research project has been funded by a grant from the Office of Equity and Access.

The procedures for collecting survey data are as follows: Women at Texas State, including faculty, staff, and students, are invited to join the study. Participants will be asked to fill out a 15-question survey that should take 10 to 15 minutes to complete. Here are a few sample questions directly from the survey:

- Would you like to be involved in an authentic

conversation about race?

-Have you ever tried to have a conversation about race that

you felt didn’t go well?

Data from the surveys will be used to screen participants for focus groups as well as to provide topics for the development for focus group discussion.

A benefit of your participation in this study is that you will contribute to expanding our understanding of race relations, both at Texas State University and in workplaces throughout the country. A benefit to you personally is that your ability to participate in authentic conversations about race should be enhanced. Answering questions regarding personal accounts often evokes feelings of self- satisfaction, pride, self-determination and accomplishment, but also may induce discomfort and anxiety. In the event that you feel anxious or emotionally disturbed during or after participating in this research study, the Texas State Counseling Center, a counseling and mental health resource for Texas State University faculty, staff, and students, is available at The LBJ Student Center in suite 5-4.1. You may contact the Counseling Center by telephone at 512-245-2208 or e-mail at [counselingcenter@txstate.edu](https://synergy.txstate.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=fab68a05ccde49a890761f5d2197a0b0&URL=mailto%3acounselingcenter%40txstate.edu). Sessions may be limited.

There is no compensation for completion of this survey. As a participant in this study, you should realize the following:

1.     You may withdraw from participation at any time during

this study without prejudice or jeopardy to your standing

with the University.

2.     You may decline to answer any question without

prejudice or jeopardy to your standing with the

University.

3.    Your identity will be kept confidential.

4.     Your responses will be stored in a secure area in the

Office of Multicultural Student Affairs. The data will be

held for three years and then destroyed.

If you have questions about research procedures, participants' rights, or injuries, you may contact the IRB chair, Dr. Jon Lasser (245-3413 and [lasser@txstate.edu](https://synergy.txstate.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=fab68a05ccde49a890761f5d2197a0b0&URL=mailto%3alasser%40txstate.edu)), or the compliance specialist, Ms. Becky Northcut (245-2102). Participants may request a summary of the research at the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs (msa@txstate.edu or 245-2278).

If you decide to participate in this conversation about race, please print out a copy of this consent form now, and then proceed to the box marked I consent to participate. By consenting, you acknowledge that you understand the nature of the study, any potential risks to you as a participant, and the means by which your identity will be kept confidential. You also acknowledge that you are over the age of 18 and that you voluntarily take part as a participant in the study.

If you decide not to participate in this study, please proceed to the box marked I do not consent to participate. By declining to participate, I acknowledge that I understand the above statements and do not give consent for my information to be used in this study.