Title: Consent Form for First Generation Iranian-Americans and their Attitude toward Sexuality

This consent form is intended to be written in language that is easily understood. Please feel free to ask any questions that you may have. The target population for this study is English-speaking; therefore, this consent form is not available in any other languages. The researcher is Anaheed Merrikh, a senior at Texas State University, San Marcos, TX, 78666. She may be contacted at [am1532@txstate.edu](mailto:am1532@txstate.edu) and at (832) 457 – 1689.

This study does require research but it does not have a funding source. You have been asked to participate in this study because you are considered a first generation Iranian-American. The purpose of this study is to get a better understanding of the attitude of first generation Iranian-Americans about sexuality. You will be asked to fully read and sign this consent form and to fill-out two short surveys. In order to assure that you will remain anonymous and that it is impossible to identify any of the participants, the consent form with your name and signature will be turned in separately and the two surveys will not be asking for your name or any other kind of identifying information. The Benet-Martinez Acculturation Scale is three pages long and its’ intended purpose is to measure your acculturation level. This questionnaire asks very direct questions and you are asked to give numerical values to the questions asked. Therefore, this survey will only take about ten minutes to complete. In addition, you will be asked to complete questions 9-13 of the Project Canada Codebook, which are about sexuality. These questions will ask you about your stance on different moral issues; whether or not you have had sex education courses prior to college; your beliefs about pornography; questions about abortion; as well as your beliefs about AIDS. This questionnaire should take about ten minutes to complete as well. You do not have to answer questions that make you feel uncomfortable. Although, the questions on these surveys can help you reflect more on your beliefs. Moreover, the outcome of this study can potentially help counselors and psychologists in better understanding and assisting your target population in the future.

The procedures for this study are not experimental. All the subjects will be filling out the exact same two surveys. There will be no extra credit offered, and withdrawal from the study will not have any negative consequences. In fact, the researcher encourages you to withdraw from the study, should you experience any kind of distress as a result of the questions asked. Moreover, if you feel comfortable completing the questionnaires, there are no anticipated physical or psychological risks. Also, participation is voluntary and you may withdraw from the study at any time without prejudice or jeopardy to your standing with the University and any other relevant organization/entity with which you are associated.

Pertinent questions about the research, your rights, and/or research-related injuries to you should be directed to the IRB chair, Dr. Jon Lasser (512-245-3413 – [lasser@txstate.edu](mailto:lasser@txstate.edu)), or to Ms. Becky Northcut, Compliance Specialist (512-245-2102).

The data collection procedures assure anonymity as previously described. Regarding data records and record keeping, confidentiality for consent forms will be maintained separately from the anonymous answer sheets and both will be secured in Dr. Friedman’s office, 214B, Psychology Building at Texas State University for a period of one year following the study. Upon completing the study, a summary of the findings will be provided to you if requested. You may access results of the study by emailing Anaheed Merrikh at am1532@txstate.edu. The IRB approval number for this research is ----. All participants are over 18 years old, thus, parent/guardian need not sign the consent form. The data collection is to be conducted anonymously, and the signed consent forms will be collected separately from the questionnaires. The data is not collected via an internet-based survey.

By signing below, you must indicate that you fully understand the consent form and its contents before participation is allowed. Only students 18 and older may participate. A copy of this consent form will be provided upon completion of the survey. Signature lines for both the participant and the researcher:

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The consent form neither asks nor implies that subjects are waiving any rights or releasing the researcher from liability. By signing, the Researcher affirms that the participants will be treated as the Researcher would expect to be treated were they a participant.