

▪ **MI-COVID Diaries Project**

Research Participant Information and Consent Form

1. EXPLANATION OF THE RESEARCH and WHAT YOU WILL DO:

You are being asked to participate in a research study of how social and economic upheavals started by the COVID-19 crisis are affecting the lives and language of Michigan residents. You will be asked to complete a short online survey with some questions about you (e.g. age, level of education), and to sign up for a project e-mail at a frequency of your preference (e.g. weekly). Your project e-mail will provide you with diary prompts, such as “What has changed for you since your last diary recording?”. You will periodically record yourself, and upload your recording to a secure server. You may submit as many recordings as you like, for the duration of the research project. You must be at least 18 years old to participate in this research.

2. YOUR RIGHTS TO PARTICIPATE, SAY NO, OR WITHDRAW:

Participation in this research project is completely voluntary. You have the right to say no at any point, and you may change your mind and withdraw your data at any time. You may choose not to answer specific questions.

3. COSTS AND COMPENSATION FOR BEING IN THE STUDY:

Participants will receive a small monetary thank-you (\$5 every two weeks for each participant who has submitted at least 15 minutes of audio diary). If you wish you may also consent (see 5 below), to have your anonymized story featured on our website. There is no limit to the number of times you can be featured on the website, nor to the number of times you can receive a gift card.

There are no costs to you for participation. You will need access to an internet connection, and a home device (such as a smartphone, tablet or computer) on which to record yourself.

4. CONTACT INFORMATION FOR QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS:

This project is being conducted by the Michigan State University Sociolinguistics Lab (co-directors: Dr. Betsy Sneller and Dr. Suzanne Evans Wagner). If you have concerns or questions about this study, such as scientific issues, how to do any part of it, please contact Dr. Wagner at the Department of Linguistics, Germanic, Slavic, Asian and African Languages, 619 Red Cedar Road, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824. E-mail: wagnersu@msu.edu. Telephone: (517) 355-9739.

If you have questions or concerns about your role and rights as a research participant, would like to obtain information or offer input, or would like to register a complaint about this study, you may contact, anonymously if you wish, the Michigan State University’s Human Research Protection Program at 517-355-2180, Fax 517-432-4503, or e-mail irb@msu.edu or regular mail at 4000 Collins Rd, Suite 136, Lansing, MI 48910.

5. DOCUMENTATION OF INFORMED CONSENT

Optional: By clicking on the button below, you indicate your voluntary consent to have your anonymized story (audio and transcription) featured on our website, if you are randomly selected.

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By clicking on the button below, you indicate your voluntary agreement to participate in this project.

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