**Chemicals and Their Users in the British Home, 1930s - 1980s**

You are invited to participate in a recorded oral history interview as part of a PhD project entitled “Chemicals and Their Users in the British Home, 1930s to 1980s”. If you decide to participate, you can change your mind at any time and are free to withdraw at any time, without giving a reason.

**What is the purpose of this study?**

To better understand domestic practices of cleaning and gardening, and the user experiences of associated products.

**Why have I been invited to participate?**

This is a study of everyday life, so your memories and experiences of shopping for and using chemicals or chemical products in your home or garden are of interest.

**What will happen if I take part?**

Together we will arrange a time and a place to have a conversation about your approach to household cleaning tasks, or, possibly and, weeding in the garden and the use of chemical weedkillers. The interview will be audio recorded, so that I focus on talking with you rather than writing notes and so that afterwards, I can repeatedly listen to the recording. The interview will probably take around 45 minutes to 2 hours, and it could take place at your address, or we can choose somewhere else.

I will send you the paperwork to formalise the interview, consisting of copyright information, a recording agreement and consent forms. You can read through and ask any questions that will help you confirm whether you are willing to take part in the recorded interview. We will review and sign them before the interview and after the interview, triple check that you’re comfortable with the paperwork. I’ll create a transcript from the interview, then send you a copy to check for accuracy, along with a copy of the recording for you to keep.

**Will what I say in this interview be kept confidential?**

You can decide whether you would prefer to use an alias, or whether you would like to be identified by your name.

**What happens to the results?**

The content of the recordings will inform my research and discussion. Excerpts from the recordings could be used as quotations within my written thesis or any other published material. Sound excerpts from the recordings, unless complete anonymity has been requested, could be played when I give papers or presentations on the work, or for a future virtual or real exhibition, depending on the quality of the recording.

The AHRC, who has funded this research, would like the data to be made available to future researchers. The social history resource that you have helped to create will be valuable to academic researchers and for exhibition curators. This means that I will seek to deposit these recordings with a relevant institution, such as the Science Museum (subject to their collecting policy), where they can be kept and made available for research.

The recordings, notes and transcripts that I make as part of the oral history will be retained in accordance with the University’s policy on Academic Integrity, which means that they will be kept securely filed for ten years after the project is completed in case anyone queries my thesis.

**What should I do if I want to take part?**

Please get in touch with Catherine Rushmore by telephone 020 3287 5404 or email catherine.rushmore-2012@brookes.ac.uk

**Who is organising and funding the research?**

I am an Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) funded student in the department of History, Philosophy and Religion, which is part of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Science at Oxford Brookes University.

**Who has reviewed the study?**

The University Research Ethics Committee at Oxford Brookes University has reviewed this study.

**Contact for further information**

If you would like any further information about this research, you can contact me, Catherine Rushmore, or my supervisor Dr Viviane Quirke

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