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## Participant Information Sheet

**Study title:** Talk like Mom: Sociolinguistic Interpretation of a Representation of Social Relationship

**Version number and date:** Version 0.1: 26-10-2022

**Researcher's name:** Pakawat Nakwijit; Matthew Purver

**Queen Mary Ethics of Research Committee reference number:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Invitation paragraph

You are being invited to participate in a research study. Before you decide whether or not you wish to participate in this study, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us questions if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

### What is the purpose of the study and what would taking part involve?

Language is not only a medium to exchange information but also contributes to the performance of action within the interaction between people in society. One possible indicator of the social relationship might be the spelling variation or intentional misspelling. Abbreviations, repeated characters, emojis and other non-standard spelling variations are more prevalent when people talk people in close relationship than a stranger. I hypothesize that this linguistic feature could be a clue to uncovering the complex nature of people's social relationships

The main purpose of this study is to analyse the semantic functions of spelling variation in Thai language with an ultimate goal to build a conversational model that can use spelling variation to reflect its identity and social relationship with the conversational partner.

During the study, you will be asked to

1. Donate your LINE messages and inform us of your relationship with the conversational partner regarding the degree of closeness and authority. You will also be asked to anonymise your own personal information by removing messages from the date/time that you feel uncomfortable sharing and replacing your personal terms, such as name, address, and phone number, with an unidentifiable token.
2. OR Participate in a wizard-of-oz task where you will be paired with another participant. The pair will be asked to act as if they are in a given role in the relationship while having a conversation about a random seeding topic. The

conversation will be made in Line application under our supervision. We could intervene if one participant acts inappropriately. One session will last 5-15 minutes for about 30 conversational turns.

3. OR Participate in a rating task where you will be asked to rate the degree of closeness and authority from a given dialogue collected from Twitter. In total, you will be asked to rate up to 1000 dialogues.

The donation will be held entirely online for 2-4 weeks, with no in-person meeting required. The participating tasks will last for a month. The participant requires to join 2 online meetings;

- Introduction meeting: you will be informed about the aims and design of the study, compensation, right to withdraw, consent information and detailed instructions to perform the task.
- Pilot 1 Follow-up meeting: it will be a discussion between you, other participants and the researcher on the issues and tips/tricks observed while performing the task.

Please note that you could contact the researcher anytime if you find any difficulties via [p.nakwijiit@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:p.nakwijiit@qmul.ac.uk) or LINE group chat.

### **Why am I being invited?**

You are being invited to participate in this research study because you have shown interest in hearing more about this study, either by responding to our Facebook post or having discussed it with our team members.

and

You should only take part in this study if you are a native Thai-speaking person and are familiar with LINE application.

### **Do I have to take part?**

Taking part in the study is completely voluntary. If you do decide to take part in this study, we will ask you to sign a consent form, but you are free to withdraw at any time without needing to provide a reason and with no penalties or detrimental effects. You will be able to ask any questions or express any concerns.

### **What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

Due to the nature of the study, we do not expect participants to benefit directly from the study here. This study will nonetheless give you an opportunity to help raise awareness of the importance of social factors in the language used. It will encourage academia community to be more language inclusive, and take cultural differences into account.

By participating, you are also contribute to the possible future development of an advanced conversational model which might have potential application in virtual assistance, smart home and other technology.

### **What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?**

Donating your personal messages has a risk to anonymity and expose your personal information. However, we will also do our best to anonymise your data and notify you via e-

mail before publishing the data. You have the right to withdraw your data from our storage if you wish at any time prior to anonymisation process.

During your participation, you could be asked to have a conversation with a stranger who might potentially be upsetting (for example, your conversation partner might act offensively) or be exposed to sensitive content such as sexual acts, graphic violence, symbol or image intended to spread hate based on someone's identity and content related to or encouraged to self-harm. However, you will be monitored at all times by a qualified professional who can provide adequate information and treat any sensitive issues with care. You are under no obligation to answer the questions if they make you uncomfortable.

### **Expenses and payments**

Upon completion of your participation, you will receive compensation for your involvement in the research, except for the donation task. The payment will be calculated based on your actual contribution to the study (by the number of dialogues you made or rated) at the rate of £5 per hour.

### **What information about me will you be collecting?**

We only collect your e-mail for communication purposes during the study, which will be discarded following the completion of the study. Age, gender identity, and other participants' demographic will not be stored by us at all times.

### **How will my data be stored and who will have access to it?**

Data protection regulation requires that we state the legal basis for processing information about you. Queen Mary University of London is the data controller and is responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. We will be using information given by you and will use the minimum personally-identifiable information possible.

We will store the de-identified research data and any research documents with personal information, such as consent forms, securely in the MS OneDrive, protected by the multi-factor authentication process associated with the researcher's QMUL account, as well as on a private, password-protected and encrypted laptop. Only the named researchers of the study will have access to the data.

Data protection regulation provides you with control over your personal data and how it is used. Further information about your rights with respect to your personal data is available at: [QMUL Data Protection Policy](#).

### **When and how will my data be destroyed?**

You can withdraw from this study at any time without explanation. If you do withdraw from the study, we would like to keep your data so that we can analyze them. However, if you do not want us to, you can request that we destroy the data.

The original dataset created for this study will be destroyed following the completion of the study, but the anonymized version will be published on an open-access research data repository such as GitHub for potential use in future research.

Further information about our data retention and destruction plans is available at: [Queen Mary Records Retention Schedule](#).

### **How will my data be used and shared?**

Some of the results of this study may be presented in a scientific journal or academic conferences. The fully-anonymized dataset will be published on an open-access research data repository such as GitHub to promote the progress of research as a whole, allow for the validation and reproduction of research findings, and enable the efficient and cost-effective creation of additional social and economic value. This includes the possibility of sharing the data with other academic and commercial organizations in the future, including those outside of the EU, for future research projects. However, no information which could be used to identify any individual participant will be published.

If you are interested in finding out about the overall results of this research, please let us know, and we will make arrangements to inform you once the study is completed.

Further information about our data access and management policy is available at: [Research Data Access and Management Policy](#)

### **Under what legal basis are you collecting this information?**

Queen Mary University of London processes personal data for research purposes in accordance with the lawful basis of 'public task'.

Please read [Queen Mary's privacy notice for research participants](#) containing important information about your personal data and your rights in this respect. If you have any questions relating to data protection, please contact Queen Mary's Data Protection Officer, Queens' Building, Mile End Road, London, E1 4NS or [data-protection@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:data-protection@qmul.ac.uk) or 020 7882 7596.

### **What will happen if I want to withdraw from this study?**

Participants can ask for access to the information they provide and can request the destruction of that information if they wish at any time prior to anonymisation process following which they will not be able to request access to or withdrawal of the information they have provided.

### **What should I do if I have any concerns about this study?**

If you have any concerns about the manner in which the study was conducted, in the first instance, please contact the researcher(s) responsible for the study; Pakawat Nakwijit by e-mail: [p.nakwijit@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:p.nakwijit@qmul.ac.uk) If you have a complaint which you feel you cannot discuss with the researchers then you should contact the Research Ethics Facilitators by e-mail: [research-ethics@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:research-ethics@qmul.ac.uk). When contacting the Research Ethics Facilitators, please provide details of the study title, description of the study and QMERC reference number (where possible), the researcher(s) involved, and details of the complaint you wish to make.

### **Who can I contact if I have any questions about this study?**

Pakawat Nakwijit  
[p.nakwijit@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:p.nakwijit@qmul.ac.uk)