

University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) Institutional Review Board
Informed Consent Form for Research Involving Human Subjects

Protocol Title: Election Study

Principal Investigator: Dr. Hannah Volpert-Esmond

UTEP Department of Psychology

In this consent form, “you” always means the study subject. If you are a legally authorized representative, please remember that “you” refers to the study subject.

Introduction

You are being asked to take part voluntarily in this online research project described below. You are encouraged to take your time in making your decision. It is important that you read the information that describes the study.

Why is this study being done?

This study investigates how the 2020 national election will impact Latina/os’ experiences with discrimination and mental wellbeing. Approximately 100 participants who identify as Latina/o/x or Hispanic and are at least 18 years old will be enrolling in this study which will be conducted at UTEP. If you decide to enroll in this study, your participation will extend until Nov. 10, 2020 (one week after the election).

What is involved in the study?

If you agree to take part in this study, you will participate in two stages of the study:

Today, you will complete a questionnaire that asks things about you, such as your ethnic identity, symptoms of anxiety and depression, satisfaction with life, and demographics such as age, gender, and where you were born.

Then, during the daily diary phase, which runs from Oct. 28, 2020 – Nov. 10, 2020, you will receive an email every day at 6 pm. The email will contain a link to a short questionnaire, which will ask about how you were feeling that day and any experiences of discrimination you had that

day. You will have 8 hours (until 2 am that night) to complete the questionnaire. If you do not complete it within that 8 hour window, it will count as a missed survey and you will not have the opportunity to go back later to complete it. On most days, each daily diary survey will take less than 10 minutes to complete. You will complete slightly longer surveys on the day after the election and the day after the election results are announced, which will include additional questions about satisfaction with life, self-esteem, and meaning in life. On these days, the daily diary survey will take less than 15 minutes to complete. Because some questions ask you to recall whether you have experienced racial/ethnic discrimination, they may be sensitive and/or cause discomfort.

What are the risks and discomforts of the study?

The risks associated with this research are no greater than those involved in daily activities. In other words, discomforts or risks associated with the experiment do not exceed those that might normally be encountered during the course of a day. However, if you feel psychological distress as a result of participating in this study, UTEP provides resources, including counseling services (<https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/counsel/>). To maintain transparency, de-identified data will be posted on an open source data website that is available to other research institutions. However, no personal identifiers will be included in the shared data (e.g., age, place of birth, IP address).

What will happen if I am injured in this study?

The University of Texas at El Paso and its affiliates do not offer to pay for or cover the cost of medical treatment for research related illness or injury. No funds have been set aside to pay or reimburse you in the event of such injury or illness. You will not give up any of your legal rights by signing this consent form. You should report any such injury to Hannah Volpert-Esmond (hivolpertes@utep.edu) and to the UTEP Institutional Review Board (IRB) at (915-747-6590) or irb.orsp@utep.edu.

Are there benefits to taking part in this study?

There are some benefits of reflecting on your emotions every day, even when these emotions are negative, as emotional awareness is related to emotional regulation and predicts positive outcomes. Besides this, you will not directly benefit from participation in this study. However, the

research has the potential to benefit society by improving our understanding of the effects of the election, including on experiences of discrimination and mental health.

Who is paying for this study?

This study is funded by UTEP via funds allocated to principle investigator, Dr. Hannah Volpert-Esmond.

What are my costs?

There are no direct costs.

Will I be paid to participate in this study?

Yes, you will be paid for your participation. For finishing the onboarding training today and completing the onboarding questionnaire, you will receive \$20. You will receive an additional \$20 for each week you participate in the daily diary phase. Thus, you are guaranteed to receive \$60 for your participation in this study.

Additionally, you have the opportunity to receive a bonus payment during each week in the daily diary phase if you complete at least 85% of the daily diary surveys (at least 6 of the 7 daily diaries that week). Thus, the maximum you may receive for the entire study, if you achieve 85% compliance for both weeks, is \$70 total.

All payment will be distributed via Target gift cards. The gift cards will be distributed online and may be redeemed online or be used in-store.

What other options are there?

You have the option not to take part in this study. There will be no penalties involved if you choose not to take part in this study.

What if I want to withdraw, or am asked to withdraw from this study?

Taking part in this study is voluntary. You have the right to choose not to take part in this study. If you do not take part in the study, there will be no penalty or loss of benefit. If you consent to participate now but withdraw from the study before the end of the study, you will still receive compensation commensurate with the time you have already spent in the study. We do encourage you to talk to a member of the research group so that they know why you are leaving the study.

The researcher may decide to stop your participation without your permission, if he or she thinks that being in the study may cause you harm. You will still be compensated for the time you spent in the study.

Who do I call if I have questions or problems?

Before beginning the study, you may ask any questions you have by emailing Dr. Hannah Volpert-Esmond at hivolpertes@utep.edu.

Following your participation, if you have questions or concerns about your participation as a research subject, please contact the UTEP Institutional Review Board (IRB) at (915-747-6590) or irb.orsp@utep.edu.

What about confidentiality?

Due to the use of Zoom for the onboarding sessions, your privacy and confidentiality regarding participation in this study cannot be guaranteed. However, all of the information you provide in all questionnaires (onboarding survey and daily diary surveys) will be completely confidential. To achieve this, at the beginning of the study, you will be assigned a random participant number. All of the data you provide will be associated with this participant number and not with any personal identifiers, including your name, email address, or phone number. All records are maintained in secure internet servers or on password-protected computers.

Results of the study will be stored and reported as an aggregation of data and there will be no way to connect individual responses with participants in any way. The results of this research study may be presented at meetings or in publications; however, no identifying information will be included in any way.

Mandatory reporting

If information is revealed about child abuse or neglect, or potentially dangerous future behavior to others, the law requires that this information be reported to the proper authorities.

Authorization Statement

I have read each page of this paper about the study (or it was read to me). I know that being in this study is voluntary and I choose to be in this study. I know I can stop being in this study without penalty. Upon request, I can get a copy of this consent form and can get information on results of the study later, if I wish.

- ☐ Yes, I have read the statement
- ☐ No, I did not read the statement

Have you had the opportunity to ask questions about this research to clarify any part of your participation in this study?

- ☐ Yes, I have had an opportunity to ask questions about this research
- ☐ No, I have not had an opportunity to ask questions about this research

Do you agree to voluntarily participate in this study?

- ☐ Yes, I agree to participate
- ☐ No, I do not agree to participate

Collected separately from consent:

Please provide the following information, so that we can contact you throughout the daily diary phase:

Name:

Email address:

Phone number:

For issues related to compliance during the daily diary phase, do you prefer to be contacted by email or by text?

☐ Email

☐ Text