

Informed Consent for Online Interview Research

Consent for Participation in the Study

You are invited to participate in an online interview on cultural learning patterns of blind individuals pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines. This is a dissertation research project being conducted by JooYoung Seo, a Ph.D. candidate supervised by his advisor Dr. Gabriela T. Richard in Learning, Design, and Technology Program at the Pennsylvania State University. The researcher requests your consent for participation in the online interview. This consent form asks you to allow the researcher to record and view the interview and to use your comments to enhance understanding of the topic. The form also asks your permission to use related observations, audios, or posts as data in this study.

This questionnaire asks for your preferences about whether to remain anonymous or to allow the researcher to name you and to quote you directly. It also asks you to indicate your preferences for use of audio recordings shared or generated in the interview.

Participation in this study is completely voluntary. If you decide not to participate there will not be any negative consequences. Please be aware that if you decide to participate, you may stop participating at any time and you may decide not to answer any specific question.

The researcher will maintain the confidentiality of the research records or data, and all data will be destroyed two years after completion of the interview.

If you have any questions, or would like a copy of this consent letter, please contact JooYoung Seo, the principal investigator of this study, at jooyoung@psu.edu or his dissertation advisor Dr. Gabriela T. Richard at grichard@psu.edu.

If you feel you have not been treated according to the descriptions in this form, or that your rights as a participant in research have not been honored during the course of this project, or you have any questions, concerns, or complaints that you wish to address to someone other than the investigator, you may contact the Office for Research Protections at the Pennsylvania State University at the 330 Building, Suite 205, University Park, PA 16802, or email IRB-ORP@psu.edu.

Thank you in advance for your participation!

JooYoung Seo,

Ph.D. Candidate

Learning, Design, and Technology

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Question 1: Agreement on Interview Participation

By checking the item below, you acknowledge that you have read the description of the study, are over the age of 18, and your participation in the study is voluntary, and you are aware

that you may choose to withdraw from the study at any time, without any penalty or consequences.

- ☐ Yes, I consent.
- ☐ No, I do not wish to participate.

Question 2: Agreement on Interview Recording

I grant permission for the interview session to be recorded and saved for the purpose of review by JooYoung Seo's research team.

- ☐ Yes.
- ☐ No.

Question 3: Agreement on Interview Data Usage for Research Publication

I grant permission for the data generated from this interview to be used in the researcher's publications on this topic.

- ☐ Yes.
- ☐ No.

Question 4: Agreement on Interview Audio-Recording Usage for Research Presentations

I grant permission for audio recordings from the interview session to be used in research presentations.

- ☐ Yes.
- ☐ No.

Question 5: Agreement on Data Tracking for the NFB Mailing Archives after Interview

During the interview, we may discuss some of the publicly available data from the NFB listserv, which you may have participated in. It would be useful for the study to correlate the

responses made during the interview with the public listserv data to better understand how blind learners engage in STEM. Do you give the researcher permission to make note of your NFB listserv activities, if any, coupled with your interview responses?

- ☐ Yes.
- ☐ No.

Question 6: Consent Signature

Please type your name in the box below to indicate that you have read carefully and completed all the consent form conditions. Your name here will be replaced with a pseudonym when published for any research presentation for confidentiality.

- First Name: [].
- Last Name: [].