|  |
| --- |
| **Protocol Title:** Changes in beverage availability and targeted marketing associated with the Philadelphia beverage tax |
| **Principal Investigator:** Dr. Erica Kenney |
| **Description of Study Population:** Parents/guardians of children ages 2-5 years old. |
| **Version Date:** 08/11/21 |

|  |
| --- |
| **Key Information**  The following is a short summary of this study to help you decide whether or not to participate. More detailed information is listed later on in this form. Why am I being invited to take part in a research study? We have invited you to take part in a research study because you are a parent/guardian of a child between the ages of 2-5 years; live in either Philadelphia, PA or Baltimore, MD; are over 18 years old; identify as white, Black, or Latinx/Hispanic; and currently allow your child to use a mobile device to play games and/or watch TV or videos. What should I know about a research study?  1. Someone will explain this research study to you. 2. Whether or not you take part is up to you. 3. You can choose not to take part. 4. You can agree to take part and later change your mind. 5. Your decision will not be held against you. 6. You may discuss your decision with your family, your friends and/or your doctor. 7. You can ask all the questions you want before you decide.  Why is this research being done? We seek to better understand digital device use among children ages 2-5 years old, and what kinds of food and beverage advertising young children are exposed to on mobile devices. The study will also assess if there are differences in advertising exposure between families living in Philadelphia versus Baltimore. Because past research has shown that food companies specifically target Black and Latinx children with more ads for foods and drinks on television, we are also specifically recruiting Black, Latinx, and white families to understand if these companies may be using similar practices with mobile devices.  ***How long will I take part in this research?***  We expect that you will be in this research study for up to one week (7 days).  *What will I be asked to do?*  You will be asked to fill out a brief 20 minute survey about your family characteristics, mobile device use, and what kinds of beverages you and your family usually drink. You will also use a tool to record how much time your child spends on different apps and games on mobile devices for a 5 day period. In certain cases, you may be asked to spend 30 minutes co-viewing the device with your child. Is there any way being in this study could be bad for me? It may be inconvenient to find time to record and send your child’s mobile and local media use/exposure data. You may also feel uncomfortable sharing your child’s screen-time data. Will being in this study help me in any way? There are no direct benefits to you from your participation in this research. We cannot promise any benefits to others from your participation in this research. However, we hope that the research will yield findings on how beverage companies and food retailers have reached families, and how their marketing strategies are related to diet-related health inequities. We will share the overall study results with you at the end of the project unless you tell us you do not want us to contact you further. What happens if I do not want to be in this research? Participation in research is voluntary. You can decide to participate, not to participate, or stop participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. Your alternative to participating in this research study is not to participate. |

**Detailed Information**

To follow, please find more detailed information about this study than already provided above.

**About this consent form**

Please read this form carefully. It provides important information about participating in research. You have the right to take your time in making decisions about participating in this research. If you have any questions about the research or any portion of this form, you can ask us at any time. If you decide to participate in this research, we will ask for verbal consent. You can save this for consent form for your record.

**Who can I talk to?**

If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or think the research has hurt you, you can contact the study’s Principal Investigator, Dr. Erica Kenney, at [ekenney@hsph.harvard.edu](mailto:ekenney@hsph.harvard.edu) or 617-384-8722.

This research has been reviewed by the Harvard Longwood Campus Institutional Review Board (IRB). If you wish to speak with someone from the IRB, you may contact the Office of Regulatory Affairs and Research Compliance (ORARC) at 617-432-2157 (or toll-free at 1-866-606-0573) or at irb@hsph.harvard.edu for any of the following:

* If your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team,
* If you cannot reach the research team,
* If you want to talk to someone besides the research team,
* If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, or
* If you want to get information or provide input about this research.

**Participation is voluntary**

You are invited to take part in this research because you are a parent/guardian of a child between the ages of 2-5 years; live in either Philadelphia, PA or Baltimore, MD; are over 18 years old; identify as white, Black, or Latinx/Hispanic; and currently allow your child to use a mobile device to play games and/or watch TV or videos. It is your choice whether or not to participate. If you choose to participate, you may change your mind and leave the study at any time. Refusal to participate or stopping your participation will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

**How many people will take part in this research?**

About 360 people will take part in this research.

## What happens if I say yes, but I change my mind later?

You can leave the research at any time. It will not be held against you.

**Will I be compensated for participating in this research?**

You will receive a $20 gift card incentive for filling out the parent survey that covers your child’s typical device usage habits and sugary beverage consumption, which is estimated to take 20 minutes to complete. You will also receive a $50 gift card incentive for sharing a week’s worth of device usage data. We will require participants to send at least 5 days’ worth of device usage data to receive the incentive. If less than 5 days’ worth of data are submitted, no portion of the $50 incentive will be provided.

**What will I have to pay for if I participate in this research?**

It will not cost you anything to participate in this research.

**If I take part in this research, how will my privacy be protected? What happens to the information you collect?**

You will be reminded that you are not required to provide your device data and have the decision power to stop participating at any time. You will send the screenshots from the device directly to the study team. In addition, you will have the option to black out any apps that you are not willing to share with the research team.

Efforts will be made to limit the use and disclosure of you and your child’s personal information, including research study records, to people who have a need to review this information. We cannot promise complete secrecy, but we will strive to keep your data as secure as we can. We will keep a record of you and your child’s participation in the study on a password protected computer but will not link your or your child’s actual name to the mobile device use data. Data collected, including you and your child’s identifiable information, may be seen by the Harvard Institutional Review Board (IRB) that oversees the research and the research team only. We will analyze and present data only

in aggregate; your own personal data will not be described by itself.

When we finish analyzing the data, we will present the overall study results back to you via e-mail, unless you tell us you do not want us to contact you further.

## What else do I need to know?

## This research is being funded by a grant from Healthy Eating Research, a program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

**Statement of Consent**

I have read the information in this consent form including risks and possible benefits. All my questions about the research have been answered to my satisfaction. I understand that I am free to withdraw at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which I am otherwise entitled. I understand that if I am returning this form electronically or remotely that all pages must be sent back to the researchers.

I consent to participate in the study.