



WRITTEN CONSENT FORM

Project Title: ‘How do we pronounce our skin in English’: Records of adoption and their impact on adoptee identity construction

Introduction:

Hello, my name is Mya Ballin. I’m a Masters student at the University of British Columbia (UBC) studying Archival Studies.

My research is about the records that Chinese and Korean transracial, transnational adoptees have of their adoption and the impact that these records have on identity construction.

By completing this research I hope to identify areas in which the specific experiences of adoptees might lend to existing discussions and considerations of archival practice. I also hope to make this a validating project for transracial adoptees, offering a new perspective/angle through which collective experiences and emotions can be expressed and identified as being academically valid and, looking forward into the future, practically supported.

Contact Information

If you have any questions about this study, would like further information, or want to provide feedback, you may contact my supervisor: Jennifer Douglas, Assistant Professor at the School of Information, University of British Columbia, IKBLC 487, 1961 East Mall, Vancouver BC V6T 1Z1. Telephone: 604.827.5905. E-mail: jen.douglas@ubc.ca.

You can also contact my thesis committee member: Rebecka Sheffield, Adjunct Professor at the School of Information, University of British Columbia via email at rsheffie@mail.ubc.ca.

If you choose to be a part of this project, here is what will happen:

1. I will have a virtually-hosted conversation interview lasting 1-1.5 hour(s) with you where we speak about topics such as:
 - Records of your adoption and their significance to you
 - Your adoption story and its evolution
 - Your thoughts and reflections on being a Korean or Chinese transracial, transnational adoptee, including but not limited to your experience of your racial identity and relationship with your family

2. I will have an additional virtually-hosted conversation lasting 1-1.5 hour(s) with you where we take a look at 2-3 specific records related to your adoption that you choose to share with the project as well as a couple of published accounts of the experiences of other Chinese and Korean transracial, transnational adoptees.

- Due to the virtual nature of our conversations, I will request for a digital copy of the records of your choosing to bring to the conversation so that I am able to view them and get a better understanding of their content. You will be asked to send these to my email, which is linked to an encryption service. If you would prefer not to share these documents over email, you can choose to show them over Zoom at the start of the interview. It is up to you whether these materials can subsequently be used in publication or if they can only be used for reference.
- You will not be required to purchase any materials for this interview. Any excerpts from publications will be provided to you. That said, if you would like to review the materials in full, the following are citations for the texts:
 - Shin, Sun Yung. *Granted to a foreign citizen*. Vancouver: Artspeak (2020).
 - Sjoblom, Lisa Wool-rim. *Palimpsest*. Montreal: Drawn & Quarterly (2016).

3. Following our conversations, if a recording was made, I will be manually transcribing it as part of my work on the project. The transcript will be sent to you via encrypted email so that you can review it. You will have 2 weeks to review, and, if necessary, revise what the transcription and return it to me via email. If you are uncomfortable with anything that has been said, please feel free to change the wording of the answers to clarify your meaning or to delete all or any part of any answer. You will have the same opportunity to review any written materials that summarize or interact with your story.

Data Collection, Recording, and Publication

All communications, including those used to share documents, will be sent using encrypted email.

Because of the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, interviews for this project will be conducted via the internet using Zoom software. When you join a Zoom session, you will be asked to give your name. We can supply you with a code you can use instead of your name to protect your privacy. You can also use a nickname or a substitute name if you prefer. On the Zoom platform you may turn off your camera if you do not wish to appear on screen at any point, and you may, from time to time, mute your microphone if you would like to do so, if, for instance, you need to talk to someone near you and do not wish to have it recorded. We will be happy to provide you with technical assistance if you need it.

With your permission, I would like to make a recording of our discussion using the features native to the Zoom to make sure I'm getting an accurate record of your thoughts. This can be a recording that captures both video and audio, a recording that records just the audio, or instead of recording you, I can take notes in my notebook. I may want to re-contact you to clarify information you gave me in your interview. Any recording that is made will be stored on my computer and will not be stored using a cloud storage service.

If you agree to an interview, I will include content and analysis from our conversations on your interview as part of my master's thesis. My supervisory committee will have access to my project and records.

I intend to make parts of my research available online on a dedicated website that will be publicly accessible (i.e. not be password protected). The website will incorporate the technology designed by the Oral History (as) Data project and the Collection Builder project developed by the University of Idaho library that enables projects to thematically tag oral history transcripts or written materials and make those tags filterable/explorable by users and create digital exhibits that link 'objects' (in this case any records that the researcher has been given permission to share on the platform) to locations, timelines, and to one another. You may limit whether my conversations with you are included as part of this online platform. If you would like material related to your story to be made available to others, you may approve them for publication. Your interview materials will NOT be included in any publications without your consent.

Data Storage and Anonymization

The data which includes interviews, the copies of the records you share with me, and my observation notes will be encrypted and de-identified, which means any publications will not use your name, unless you would like to be identified.

I will store your information safely and confidentially in a password protected and encrypted laptop. I would like to be able to use your de-identified information/data in future studies (e.g. a doctoral dissertation).

Risks and Risk Management

The following risks are involved in taking part in this study: you may find aspects of the interview emotionally distressing and intense due to the focus of the conversation being on your adoption and identity. You can feel free to take a break or stop participating in the conversation at any time. As there are plans to make the results of this study available to the adoptive community and the public through a dedicated website, even if de-identification is performed, it is possible that your story will be recognizable to individuals that you know.

Remuneration/Compensation

Though we very much value your contribution to this project, no remuneration or compensation will be paid as part of this project.

Participation and Withdrawal from the Study

You don't have to agree to take part in this study; you can ask me any questions you want before or throughout; you can also withdraw at any stage without giving a reason. If you choose to withdraw, any data that has been collected will be deleted from my computer.

Please note that once that data is made public the final submission of my thesis, you will no longer be able to withdraw. You will, however, continue have the opportunity to withdraw your materials from use on the project website.

Contact for Information about the Rights of Research Subjects

If you have any concerns or complaints about your rights as a research participant and/or your experiences while participating in this study, contact the Research Participant Complaint Line in the UBC Office of Research Ethics at 604-822-8598 or if long distance e-mail RSIL@ors.ubc.ca or call toll free 1-877-822-8598.

The reference for this study is: H21-03122

Recording:

You have your choice of how your interview is recorded. You may choose any or all of the following by marking them with your initials:

_____ You agree that I **may make notes from your interview from memory** after the interview is finished and use the notes as part of my project.

_____ You agree that I **may take notes during your interview** and use the notes as part of my project.

_____ You agree that I **may record the audio of your interview** and use the audio recording as part of my project.

_____ You agree that I **may record the audio and video of your interview** and use the them as part of my project.

You may withdraw materials from the project at any time prior to their use in the ways to which you have agreed.

Personal records:

You may choose to approve the use of the digital copies of records discussed as part of the object elicitation stage of this project in the final products. Please choose **one** of the following options:

_____ Mya Ballin **may** include the digital copies of documents discussed during our conversations as part of her project.

_____ Mya Ballin **may not** include the digital copies of documents discussed during our conversations as part of her project.

You may withdraw materials from the project at any time prior to their use in the ways to which you have agreed.

Online Publication:

You may choose to approve the record of your participation in this project to become part of a website dedicated to this research project. Please choose **one** of the following options:

_____ Mya Ballin **may** include materials from the record of my participation in an online publication.

_____ Mya Ballin **may not** include materials from the record of my participation in an online publication.

You may withdraw materials from the project at any time prior to their use in the ways to which you have agreed.

Consent:

Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary and you may refuse to participate or withdraw from the study at any time.

Your signature below indicates that you have received a copy of this consent form for your own records.

Your signature indicates that you consent to participate in this study.

Participant Signature

Date

Printed Name of the Participant