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**Institutional Review Board**

1204 Marie Mount Hall • 7814 Regents Drive • College Park, MD 20742 • 301-405-4212 • [irb@umd.edu](mailto:irb@umd.edu)

**CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE**

<b>Project Title</b>	Stress, Anxiety, and Depression Among Persian-Speaking Immigrants and Non-Immigrants from Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan: A Survey
<b>Purpose of the Study</b>	This research is being conducted by Nathan Boyle under the supervision of Dr. Nahal Akbari at the University of Maryland, College Park. We are inviting you to participate in this research project because you are a Persian speaker from Iran, Afghanistan, or Tajikistan. The purpose of this research project is to better understand the mental health of people from three Persian-speaking countries.
<b>Procedures</b>	<b>Survey Completion.</b> Participants will complete a 10-15 minute online survey, delivered via Qualtrics. The survey contains the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Depression Anxiety Stress Scale-21 (DASS-21). The DASS-21 is a standardized and widely utilized measure of anxiety, stress, and depression. This study uses a version translated by Ali Sahebi and edited for clarity and agreement with the original English DASS-21 by Manizhe Galledari and Nathan Boyle.</li><li>2. Selected questions from the World Health Organization Quality of Life Assessment Brief (WHOQOL-Bref)</li><li>3. Questions relating to experiences in society (e.g., language skills, sense of agency, discrimination, political and religious freedom, and sense of connection with one's culture and country). These questions were formulated by Nathan Boyle and Manizhe Galledari.</li><li>4. An optional free response question about sources of stress.</li><li>5. Questions about sociopolitical stress. These questions were formulated by Nathan Boyle and Manizhe Galledari.</li><li>6. Demographic questions</li></ol>
<b>Potential Risks and Discomforts</b>	<b>Possible Discomfort from Assessments.</b> You may get tired or bored when you are completing the questionnaire. You may experience mild discomfort resulting from the discussion of potentially difficult topics (e.g., discrimination, political violence, or living conditions) or being reminded of past traumatic events. You do not have to answer any questions you do not want to answer. The stress experienced in the completion of the survey is expected to be mild to moderate in intensity.  <b>Potential Loss of Confidentiality.</b> We will not collect personally identifiable information or potentially

	identifying metadata in this study. Data provided by participants will be stored on a secure Qualtrics server. However, there is still a risk that survey responses you provide could become known to people outside this study.
<b>Potential Benefits</b>	There are no direct benefits from participating in this research. However, we hope that, in the future, other people might benefit from this study through improved understanding of associations between social determinants of health and mental health outcomes in understudied populations..
<b>Confidentiality</b>	<p>Any potential loss of confidentiality will be minimized by storing data on password-protected locations on UMD Qualtrics and UMD Box. Anonymized data will be analyzed on password-protected computers.</p> <p>If we write a report or article about this research project, your identity will be protected to the maximum extent possible. Your information may be shared with representatives of the University of Maryland, College Park or governmental authorities if you or someone else is in danger or if we are required to do so by law.</p>
<b>Compensation</b>	Your participation in this research will not be compensated.
<b>Right to Withdraw and Questions</b>	<p>Your participation in this research is completely voluntary. You may choose not to take part at all. If you decide to participate in this research, you may stop participating at any time. If you decide not to participate in this study or if you stop participating at any time, you will not be penalized or lose any benefits to which you otherwise qualify.</p> <p>If you decide to stop taking part in the study, if you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or if you need to report an injury related to the research, please contact the investigators:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Principal Investigator</b>  <b>Nathan Boyle</b>  <a href="mailto:nboyle@umd.edu">nboyle@umd.edu</a> </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Faculty Advisor</b>  <b>Nahal Akbari</b>  <a href="mailto:nakbaris@umd.edu">nakbaris@umd.edu</a> </p>
<b>Participant Rights</b>	<p>If you have questions about your rights as a research participant or wish to report a research-related injury, please contact:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">           University of Maryland College Park            Institutional Review Board Office            1204 Marie Mount Hall            College Park, Maryland, 20742            E-mail: <a href="mailto:irb@umd.edu">irb@umd.edu</a>            Telephone: 301-405-0678         </p> <p style="text-align: center;">For more information regarding participant rights, please visit:</p>

	<p><a href="https://research.umd.edu/research-resources/research-compliance/institutional-review-board-irb/research-participants">https://research.umd.edu/research-resources/research-compliance/institutional-review-board-irb/research-participants</a></p> <p>This research has been reviewed according to the University of Maryland, College Park IRB procedures for research involving human subjects.</p>
<b>Statement of Consent</b>	<p>By checking the box, you affirm that you are at least 18 years of age; you have read this consent form or have had it read to you; your questions have been answered to your satisfaction and you voluntarily agree to participate in this research study.</p>