

***Why do Programmers do What they Do?***

**INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS**

You are invited to take part in this research. Please read this information before deciding whether or not to take part. If you decide to participate, thank you. If you decide not to participate, thank you for considering this request.

**Who am I?**

My name is Lavanya Sajwan and I am an Honours student in the school of engineering and computer science at Victoria University of Wellington. This research project is work towards my software engineering honours project.

**What is the aim of the project?**

This project *[explain the research purpose/topic in language appropriate to your audience]*.  
Your participation will support this research by *[explain what the benefits are to the participant and/or to the research].* This research has been approved by the Victoria University of Wellington Human Ethics Committee *[add ResearchMaster application reference number i.e. #xxxxx].*

**How can you help?**

You have been invited to participate because *[explain why participant has been approached/selected]*. If you agree to take part I will interview you *[specify location of interview]*. I will ask you questions about *[add a description in one or two words]*. The interview will take *[specify length of interview]*. I will [audio/video] record the interview with your permission and write it up later. You can choose to not answer any question or stop the interview at any time, without giving a reason. You can withdraw from the study by contacting me at any time before *[add a specific date].* If you withdraw, the information you provided will be destroyed or returned to you.

**What will happen to the information you give?**

*[Choose one of the following options and delete the others]*

This research is confidential[[1]](#footnote-1)\*. This means that the researchers named below will be aware of your identity but the research data will be combined and your identity will not be revealed in any reports, presentations, or public documentation. However, you should be aware that in small projects your identity might be obvious to others in your community *[include this statement if it could be relevant for your research]*.

*[OR]*

The research is not confidential, and you will be named in the final report.

*[OR]*

You will not be named in the final report but your organisation will be named (provided you have the authority to agree to this on behalf of the organisation).

Only my supervisors and *[include if you are a student],* the transcriber (who will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement) and *[if an external transcriber is to be used]* I will read the notes or transcript of the interview. The interview transcripts, summaries and any recordings will be kept securely and destroyed on *[insert date]*.

**What will the project produce?**

The information from my research will be used in [my Honours/Masters/PhD dissertation/report] *[AND/OR]* [a report to XXX and/or academic publications and conferences]*.*

**If you accept this invitation, what are your rights as a research participant?**

You do not have to accept this invitation if you don’t want to. If you do decide to participate, you have the right to:

• choose not to answer any question;

• ask for the recorder to be turned off at any time during the interview *[if it is recorded]*;

• withdraw from the study before *[add a specific date]*;

• ask any questions about the study at any time;

• receive a copy of your interview recording *[if it is recorded and going to be offered]*;

• receive a copy of your interview transcript *[if it is recorded and going to be offered];*

• read over and comment on a written summary of your interview *[if one will be produced and going to be offered];*

• be able to read any reports of this research by emailing the researcher to request a copy.

**If you have any questions or problems, who can you contact?**

If you have any questions, either now or in the future, please feel free to contact [either/me]:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Student:**  Name:  University email address:  *[Note: students should not provide personal cell phone numbers]* | **Supervisor:**  Name:  Role:  School:  Phone:  *[first.last]*@vuw.ac.nz |

1. \* Confidentiality will be preserved except where you disclose something that causes me to be concerned about a risk of harm to yourself and/or others. [include if appropriate for your research] [↑](#footnote-ref-1)