

## **Parent Letter of Information USU Relationship Education Programs – YOUTH**

**Purpose & Procedures:** Utah State University (USU) educators are teaching the PICK program in high schools who partner with USU. PICK is an educational program that teaches about healthy relationships. We ask student participants to take a short survey to help us understand their experiences in the class. Dr. Bradford in USU's Department of Human Development & Family Studies is overseeing the evaluation. Youth are asked to complete a survey at the beginning of a course and at the end. The surveys take less than 15 minutes each to complete. Participation is voluntary. No one has to participate in the surveys. The surveys can be seen online at <https://extension.usu.edu/hru/teens>

**Risks, Benefits, Confidentiality, & Voluntary Nature:** There is minimal risk to participating. Students learn about making healthy relationship choices based on assessing knowledge and trust. The surveys are anonymous; we use only codes, no names. Students may skip questions they do not want to answer. Participation in any and all aspects of this program is by choice: youth may choose not to participate in any part of program, or stop at any time. We are required by state law to report child abuse and neglect as well as domestic violence witnessed by children. Research records are kept confidential, in keeping with federal and state regulations. Only Dr. Bradford and his research team will have access to completed surveys and attendance information which will be kept in secured locked storage facilities. If the results are published or presented, codes and names will never be listed. ID codes and surveys will be destroyed at the end of the project. Deidentified data will be maintained indefinitely.

**IRB Approval & Investigator Statement:** If you have questions about the study, you may reach Dr. Higginbotham at (435) 797-7276 or [Brian.H@usu.edu](mailto:Brian.H@usu.edu), or Dr. Bradford at (435) 797-5454 or [k.bradford@usu.edu](mailto:k.bradford@usu.edu). The Institutional Review Board for the protection of human participants at Utah State University has approved this research study. A letter of information about the study is provided for your parent(s) or guardian(s), including a link to the survey questions. Taking the survey is voluntary. You can ask any questions about this study now or later. If you have any questions or concerns and want to contact someone other than the research team, you may contact the IRB Director at (435) 797-0567 or email [irb@usu.edu](mailto:irb@usu.edu). Taking and returning the survey means you agree to participate, that the study has been explained, and that any questions have been answered.

Thank you!

Kay Bradford, PhD, LMFT, Project Evaluator