

USU Relationship Education Programs – High Schools

Introduction and Process: As part of taking this course, you are invited to participate in a research study conducted by Kay Bradford, a Professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at Utah State University. The purpose of this research is to better understand your experience in the class. You do not have to take the survey. No one will be upset if you choose not to.

Your participation will involve taking two surveys, one at the beginning and one at the end of the class, which should each take less than 15 minutes. Total participation in this research project is expected to be no more than 30 minutes. Anonymous attendance data will also be used.

Risks and Confidentiality: Doing the survey is no riskier than everyday life. You may feel uncomfortable answering a question, and loss of confidentiality is possible. You do not have to answer any questions you don't want to.

We will do all we can to keep your answers confidential. We use only codes on surveys, no names. Your identity will not be revealed in any publications, presentations, or reports.

Online activities carry a risk of data loss, but we will secure data in a restricted-access folder on Box.com. Paper records will be stored in a locked drawer in a restricted-access office. Physical copies of attendance records and surveys, if used, will be kept for three years following the end of the project, then destroyed. It is possible that officials may require us to share information. We only share your information if law or policy requires us to do so. If we learn of abuse or neglect, state law requires that we report it.

Voluntary Participation & Withdrawal: Your participation in this research is completely up to you. **You can stop at any time** by simply exiting or not submitting the survey. If you want to withdraw after completing or submitting a survey, please inform your facilitator. If you choose to withdraw after we have already collected information about you, we will remove your data if it can be identified. You may still participate in the course.

Compensation: You will not receive any compensation for participation in the surveys.

IRB Review: The Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the protection of human research participants at Utah State University has reviewed and approved this study. If you have questions about the study, you may reach Dr. Bradford at (435) 797-5454 or k.bradford@usu.edu. A letter of information about the study is provided for your parent(s) or guardian(s), including a link to the survey questions. 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.

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Informed Consent: Taking and returning the survey means you agree to participate, that the study has been explained, and that any questions have been answered. You indicate that you understand the risks and benefits of participation, and that you know what you will be asked to do. You also agree that you are clear on how to stop your participation in the study if you choose to do so.