



ASSENT TO TAKE PART IN RESEARCH

TITLE OF RESEARCH: Family Content Creation: Understanding Families' Experiences
Principal Investigator (person in charge of the research): Leah Cates, PhD student, Rutgers University School of Communication and Information

Who are you and why are you meeting with me?

My name is Leah, and I am studying to get an advanced degree (called a PhD) in Media Studies from the Rutgers University School of Communication and Information. I would like to tell you about research that involves people like yourself and your family to see if you would like to take part in it. Please ask me or a parent to explain any words you don't understand about the research.

What is the research about?

This research explores the experiences of families like yours that make social media content together.

What will happen to me if I take part in the research?

1. I will spend at least three days with you and your family as you make social media content and do everyday things, like play outside and eat meals. I might ask questions about what you're doing. There are no right or wrong answers, and if you don't want to answer them, you don't have to.
2. I will interview you. That means we'll sit down together, either in person or on Zoom, and I'll ask you questions about creating social media content with your family. Again, nothing you say is right or wrong, and you may skip any questions you don't want to answer.

Because it's hard for me to remember everything you say, I would like to record our interview, but only with your permission. As I spend time with you, I might also want to record some of your conversations with your family and/or with me, if you are alright with that. With the help of artificial intelligence (AI), I'll type out all the words that everyone says – that's called a transcription. I will always check with you before I record to make sure you're okay with it.

Will others know what I say and do in the research?

Since a lot of people know you and your family from social media, they might figure out who you are, but I'll try to stop that from happening by using a pretend name for you when I tell people about the research. You will be able to help choose the pretend name. I might also change minor details about you, like your exact age. The only people I might directly tell what you say or do are 1.) organizations that help keep people who participate in research safe, 2.) my faculty advisor, Amy Jordan, whose contact information is at the bottom of this document (a faculty advisor is like a teacher), and 3.) other researchers that I may work with to do projects using what I learned in this research. The researchers would be safe people who are professionals at their jobs.

Can something bad happen to me if I take part in the research?

Like I said above, because a lot of people know you and your family from social media, they might figure out who you are. I'll do everything I can to stop this from happening by using your pretend name and maybe changing minor details about you and your life. My notes about our time together, as well as the recordings and transcriptions, could accidentally be seen or heard by people who are not working on the research. I'll try to stop this from happening by keeping information about you in a safe place that's protected by a password that only I know. Also, because I'll be spending a lot of time with you and asking many questions, you might get tired of answering questions. If this happens, you can tell me, and we'll take a break and/or I will ask fewer questions. Finally, if any of my questions make you feel stressed or upset, let me know, and we can talk about something else.

Can something good happen to me if I take part in the research?

You might enjoy answering the questions and teaching me about your life.

Will I be given anything for taking part in the research?

Yes. You'll get a gift card to Amazon when we're done with each visit and with the interviews. If you have brothers and sisters, you'll share the gift card(s) with them. Because your family is helping with the project, you and your siblings will get the gift card(s) even if you decide you don't want to be part of the project.

What if I do not want to take part in the research?

You do not have to take part in this research if you do not want to. Just tell me no. I will not be upset. If you do want to take part now, you can always change your mind later and decide to stop taking part in the research.

What are my rights if I decide to take part in this research?

You may ask questions about any part of the research at any time. Do not sign this form unless you have had a chance to ask questions, have been given answers to all your questions, and agree to take part in the research. If you say yes, I'll also ask your parent(s) or guardian if it is ok for you to take part in this research. I'll give you a copy of this form to keep.

What if I have questions?

If you have any questions, concerns, or want more information about the research, you can contact me (Leah), since I am the Principal Investigator, which means I'm in charge of the project. My email address is leah.cates@rutgers.edu, and my phone number is (413) 348-9712. You can also contact my faculty advisor (a faculty advisor is like a teacher). Her name is Amy Jordan, and she is a professor at Rutgers University. You can reach Dr. Jordan through email (a.jordan@rutgers.edu) or phone (848-932-8789). If you have questions, concerns, problems, information or ideas about the research, or if you would like to know your rights as a research participant, you can contact the Rutgers Institutional Review Board (IRB) / Human Research Protection Program, which helps keep people who participate in research safe. You can call them at (973) 972-3608 or (732) 235-2866 or (732) 235-9806. You can also email them at irboffice@research.rutgers.edu, or you can write them at 335 George Street, Liberty Plaza Suite 3200, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

ASSENT OF MINOR TO TAKE PART IN THIS RESEARCH

Participant's Signature:

I have read this form, or it has been read to me, and I believe I understand what has been talked about. My questions about this research have been answered. I agree to take part in this research.

Name (Print) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature of Investigator/Person Obtaining Assent:

To the best of my ability, I have explained and discussed the important details about the research, including all information contained in this assent form. All questions have been accurately answered.

Investigator/Person Obtaining Assent Name (Print): _____

Signature _____ Date _____