



LETTER OF INFORMATION - STAGGERED DYADS

Project Title: Intercultural Romantic Relationships

Investigators:

John K. Sakaluk, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, University of Western Ontario
Adira Daniel, M.Sc. Student, Department of Psychology, University of Western Ontario

Perceptions of Relationships – Invitation to Participate

You are invited to participate in a study entitled *Perceptions of Relationships Project* that is being conducted by Adira Daniel, Dr. John Sakaluk, and his Methodology and Relationship/Sexual Science (MaRSS) Lab. Dr. Sakaluk is an Assistant Professor in the department of psychology at the University of Western Ontario. Adira Daniel is a M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Psychology at the University of Western Ontario, supervised by Dr. Sakaluk. You may contact Dr. Sakaluk by emailing jsakaluk@uwo.ca or Adira Daniel by emailing adanie48@uwo.ca if you have any further questions about this research.

Purpose, Objectives, and Importance of Research

The purpose of this research project is to understand how people perceive their intercultural romantic relationships. Specifically, we are interested in how these individuals navigate their relationship and cope with the negative effects of the challenges they may face. Research of this type is important because it will allow us to better understand the similarities and differences in how people think and feel about their relationships.

Participants Selection and Involvement

You are being asked to participate in this study because of you and your partner are currently involved in an intercultural romantic relationship and have indicated interest in being interviewed about your relationship. If you consent to participate in this research, your participation will include (1) answering a number of demographic items and (2) an interview. Along with this letter, you will receive a link to the demographic items (https://uwo.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a3PXm3wnn3Blt0W). The interview will be about how you navigate your relationship and **will be recorded**. It will be about 30 minutes long,

Possible Risks and Harms

There are some potential risks to you by participating in this research and they include potentially feeling embarrassed due to the study topic (i.e., detailed aspects of participants romantic relationships and experiences with racism, stigma, and discrimination in daily life).. To prevent or to deal with these risks, **you are free to skip any questions that might make you feel uncomfortable.**

Potential Benefits and Compensation.

The potential benefits of your participation in this research include learning about the process of research firsthand and helping to advance the state of knowledge of relationships. To compensate you for any inconvenience related to your participation, **you will be given a \$11 gift card.**

Voluntary Participation and Confidentiality

Your participation in this research must be completely voluntary. If you do decide to participate, you may withdraw at any time without any consequences or any explanation. You do not waive any legal right by



participating in this research. If you do withdraw from the study your data can be deleted if you contact Adira Daniel or Dr. Sakaluk with the email your provided.

The interview will be conducted and recorded over Zoom. Only the audio recordings will be saved. Your confidentiality and the confidentiality of the data will be via the security protocols in place for data collected through Zoom. **All data collected through Zoom for this study will be stored on the University of Western Ontario shared folder system.** This folder will only be accessible to the research team.

Dissemination of Results and Disposal of Data

It is anticipated that the results of this study will be shared with others in the following ways: 1) conference oral and poster presentations at scholarly meetings ; 2) press-releases, social media and on the internet; 3) peer-reviewed journal articles; 4) Student theses/dissertations/class presentations, 5) publications in books. In the course of dissemination, it may be necessary to share anonymized aggregated data or quotes from your responses, in order for external reviewers and readers to verify the accuracy of our analyses and research reports. This will be facilitated via Adira Daniel or Dr. Sakaluk's Open Science Framework page—a service for sharing research materials, with data servers located in Canada (Montreal). Data from this study will be stored indefinitely, in order to maintain the verifiability of the findings to interested researchers and readers.

In addition, you may verify the ethical approval of this study, or raise any concerns you might have, by contacting The Office of Human Research Ethics (519) 661-3036, 1-844-720-9816, email: ethics@uwo.ca. This office oversees the ethical conduct of research studies and is not part of the study team. Everything that you discuss will be kept confidential.

Contacts for Further Information

At the end of this study, you will receive a debriefing sheet explaining the nature of the research. If you choose to withdraw from the study but would still like a debriefing sheet, it can be accessed at: .

If you would like any further information about the research or receive a copy of potential study results, please contact Adira Daniel at adanie48@uwo.ca .



Consent

Please read this form before your interview. Before you are interviewed, you must **VERBALLY INDICATE** that you indicate that you understand the above conditions of participation in this study and that you have had the opportunity to have your questions answered by the researchers.

Please sign below if you fully understand the nature of this project and wish to participate in this project.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please retain a copy of this letter for your reference.