

Citizenship in Crisis Project Informed Consent Form: In Depth Interview

INTRODUCTION

I am conducting research on the Ebola outbreak that took place in this community and in Sierra Leone as a whole between 2014 and 2016. I am a researcher from the University of Bath in the United Kingdom and I have been approved to conduct this research by the University of Bath.

The purpose of this research is to explore your views and experiences of the Ebola outbreak, the measures that were in place at that time and more generally your experiences as a citizen of Sierra Leone. I am interested to know your opinion about what being a citizen means for you and how you see your life in your community now that the outbreak has ended.

IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS

I am planning to do interviews to help me understand young people's experiences of the Ebola crisis and the impact that it has had on young people's lives up until now. The interview will be carried out by myself in Krio or English. If you prefer to have the interview carried out in a different language (Themne, Mende, Limba or Susu) I will ask my research assistant to translate.

After you have read (or had this form read out to you) and had all your questions answered and feel that you understand what you will have to do, I will ask you for permission to record the interview. If you do not want the interview to be recorded then hand-written notes of the interview will be taken instead. The interview will be informal and you will be encouraged to talk freely about anything you feel is related to the questions. There are no right and wrong answers and all your views will be respected. Anything you tell me in this interview will be anonymous.

The interview should take no longer than 2 hours, and will be conducted in a private place. If the interview takes longer and you need to leave to attend other duties, please feel free to let me know and we can continue with the interview some other time.

DO I HAVE TO TAKE PART?

This form provides information about the procedures. After reading and talking about the information provided with the researcher, you will be able to decide whether you want to take part in this study. If you decide to take part, we will ask you to sign this consent form. Please note that your decision to take part is entirely voluntary, it is entirely up to you whether you decide to take part or not. If you decide not to take part this will not affect you in any way. If you decide to take part you can drop out at any time, for any reason. If any specific question makes you uncomfortable or you would prefer not to answer it, just let me know and we will move on. I will completely respect any decision you make.

HOW WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE KEPT PRIVATE?

Your contact details will be confidential and only be available to the staff involved in the study. The copy of the voice recording will not have your name attached to it. All information collected in this study will be kept securely and confidential in a locked location. Your name and details will not be recorded on the notes written during the interview or in reports from the study and your identity will remain private and confidential. Reports about this study may quote some of the words you tell us. Any words that you have told us during the interviews will not have your name attached to them.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS, STRESS OR DISCOMFORT OF TAKING PART IN THIS INTERVIEW?

We do not expect that you will experience any harm by taking part in this interview. However, some of the questions may be sensitive and you may feel embarrassed to discuss them. You can stop the interview or withdraw from this interview if you feel uncomfortable.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING?

We hope that the information gained from the interviews will improve our understanding of the experiences of people like you during crisis and to shape policies and programming aimed at people like you in communities like yours. There is no material benefit for taking part in this project.

ARE THERE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH PARTICIPATING IN THIS STUDY?

There are no direct costs to you for participating in this study.

HOW WILL I HEAR THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY?

After we have completed the research we will inform you of the outcomes of this study together with the main study through meetings which will be organized.

WHOM CAN I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?

We would like to answer all your questions. If you have any questions now, please ask us. If you have any questions later, you can also contact you can call me, Dr. Luisa Enria, on [LOCAL NUMBER] or email l.enria@bath.ac.uk