

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION FORM

Dear Parent/Guardian:

My name is Brittany Bradley and I am a doctoral student in the School Psychology program at Illinois State University. I am conducting a research project that aims to gather information surrounding students' experiences with their peers and school staff members. I am especially interested in learning about their experiences with their teachers. The survey your student would complete has been utilized a great deal in the research literature. The information gathered will help us gain a better understanding of student's experiences with their teachers and will also directly inform future efforts that are taken at your adolescent's school to improve school climate.

The questionnaire will be completed in one session that will last about 30 minutes. Students will be asked questions regarding their experiences with teachers, school climate, and their self-esteem. To maintain social distancing and avoid using academic class time, the questionnaire will be administered online and can be taken at the student's leisure. As compensation for participation your adolescent will have the opportunity to enter in a raffle to win 1 of 10 \$10 Amazon e-gift cards.

Characteristics that would make someone eligible to participate include identifying as Black. Your students' participation in this study is voluntary. If you choose not to have your student participate, there will be no penalty. Likewise, if your student chooses to participate, and then decides to withdraw from the study at any time, there will be no penalty. The results of the research study may be published, but your student's name will not be used. Your student's responses will be anonymous, which means that your child will not need to put their name on the survey. Only the research team will be allowed to see your adolescent's exact responses. All data will be stored securely on a computer accessible to only the researchers. Aggregate results of the research will be shared with your student's school, as they will not see your adolescent's specific responses

RISKS. There may be some mild risks associated with participation in this study. Some students may find answering personal questions uncomfortable. All participants will have the option to skip any question they are not comfortable answering. There is also a minimal risk of loss of privacy. However, all participants will be assured that their individual responses will not be shared with anyone at their school, including teachers, administrators, and other students, only aggregate data will be reported to the district.

BENEFITS. Your students will not benefit directly from their involvement in this study. However, they will have the opportunity to be a part of a large research project and may find involvement in a psychological study interesting. This information gathered will also be used as a needs assessment for the school. Results from this study, only in aggregate form, will be given to the school building principal to potentially help shape prevention and intervention programs at school.

If you would like to consent for your student to participate, you do not need to take any further action at this time. If you do not want your student to participate, please contact my supervisor, Dr. Brea Banks by email (bmbanks@ilstu.edu). Researchers will begin data collection in 1 week, so please do so as soon as possible.

If you have any questions concerning this research study or your child's participation in the study, please call/email Dr. Brea Banks (309) 438-2703, bmbanks@ilstu.edu.

If you have any questions about you or your student's right as a subject/participant in this research, or if you feel you or your adolescent has been placed at risk, you can contact the Research Ethics & Compliance Office at Illinois State University at (309) 438-5527, rec@ilstu.edu.

Thank you,

Brittany Bradley, B.S.
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