

Annex 8

ESRC Project Adolescent Information Sheet/Consent and Assent

Introduction

Hello, my name is _____. I am part of a team of researchers from Makerere University. You are being invited to participate in a study which is part of promoting inclusion in decent work for young people in Uganda: Will reducing violence help? This is a research project funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) of United Kingdom. Makerere University is working with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). This study will include approximately 24 adolescents who participated in the Footprints study and over 20 other key people in Luwero district who emerge as important from the individual adolescent interaction.

We will read this form with you. It will tell you about the study and what will happen if you agree to join. If you have any questions while we go through this form, please feel free to ask any of us. If you want to be in the study, please sign at the end of the form. Your participation in the study will last approximately 1 hour.

What is the purpose of this study?

The purpose of the study is to understand how violence in childhood and adolescence affects labour, participation in skills programmes and employment outcomes in Uganda in order to find ways to promote inclusion in decent work.

What would I have to do?

If you choose to participate:

- You will be asked to sign or put your thumb print on this consent form
- You will be interviewed by a member of the study team once
- The interview will last about an hour
- The interview will ask you about:
 - Your experiences of transitioning into work/training; these may include the opportunities and challenges

- Your experiences of skills and employment programmes and the barriers to participating in these programmes
- Your opinions on the limitations of these skills programmes and how they might be improved

What else will happen?

We would like to audio record the discussion to help us remember what you said. This recording will be destroyed once the interview has been written down. If you do not want the interview to be recorded, then hand-written notes will be taken instead.

What are the risks of participating in the study?

It is possible that you could feel sad or uncomfortable during an interview because some of the questions are personal. If this happens, we can take a break and you can choose whether or not to continue. You can also choose to pass on answering some questions. You do not have to give a reason for not answering. If the interview raises any issues that you would like to discuss further with a counsellor or support worker, we would be happy to arrange this.

What are the benefits of participating in the study?

There are no direct benefits for you as an individual because of your participation in the study. However, telling us about your experiences could mean that you are able to inform policy. Information gained from this study may lead to increased knowledge about transitions to work and how these can best be supported which may ultimately inform national youth and work related policies and guidelines.

Will you be paid for participation?

You will not be paid for participation in this study. Instead you will be given a drink and snack which you take during interviews

What about my confidentiality?

You will be assigned a unique identification number so your name or personal information will be kept confidential. Your name will not be used in any reports or publication resulting from the research study.

Anything you tell us about yourself will be private and not told to anyone else. However, during this study, it may become clear that you are suffering from serious difficulties. If so, the interviewer will explain to you some possibilities for further help. If you tell me something that makes me think your current safety or wellbeing might be at risk or that you have been hurt, I will do my best to keep you

safe by helping you to get in touch with a Child Protection Officer, the health centre, or other services. Study records that identify you will be kept confidential and will be stored separately from your answers in this interview. Only senior study staff will have access to this information.

If you agree, after the study we would like to store a written record of the interview with all names and identifying information removed in a database that others may access.

What if I don't want to take part in the study?

Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may choose not to take part at all. If you decide not to participate, there will not be any consequences. If you decide to participate, you may stop participating at any time.

If you have questions as a result of this study, please contact the in-country PI or Study Coordinator on the addresses below

Dr. Eddy. J. Walakira
ESRC Project In-Country PI
Department of Social Work and Social Administration
Makerere University
[Telephone]

OR

Agnes Kyamulabi
ESRC Project (Qualitative) Coordinator
Department of Social Work and Social Administration
Makerere University
[Telephone]

This study was approved by Mildmay Uganda Research Ethics Committee (MUREC) which is an accredited research ethics committee, Uganda National Council of Science and Technology, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Ethics Committee. If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact:

Ms Harriet Chemusto
The Chair
Mildmay Uganda Research and Ethics Committee,
Plot 27, Lweza, P.O. Box 24985, Kampala, Uganda
[Telephone]

And,

The Executive Secretary

The Uganda National Council of Science and Technology,
Kimera Road. Ntinda P. O. Box 6884 Kampala, Uganda
[Telephone, email]

The data collected in this study will be used for the purpose described in this information form. By signing this assent/consent, you are also saying that you understand that the information you provide (with your name removed) might be used to inform policy, and will be joined with other adolescents' experiences so that we can understand how they navigate these issues of concern.

The summary results of the study (with no identifying information about participants) will be made available to participants at the end of the study.

Statement of Assent/Consent

Do you have any questions about any of the things that I have just said?

Interviewer, please read the following aloud and potential participant tick agreement in each box (or interviewer tick on their behalf).	Yes	No
I have read this form, or had it read and explained to me		
I understand this information, had time to consider and was able to ask all my questions on the study		
I understand that my participation is voluntary and I can stop this at any time, and I know I can contact Agnes Kyamulabi at Makerere University if I have questions in the future or choose to stop participating.		
I understand that my name will not be used in any reports produced as part of this study		
I consent to having my interview audio recorded		
After the study I will allow the researchers to store my anonymous data (with all names and identifying information removed) in a database that others may access		
If I cannot read or sign, I understand that a witness can sign on my behalf.		

PARTICIPANT

I certify that I have read the above consent procedure/ that it was read to me and I agree to participate:

Signature of Young Person/Adolescent:

Date: _____ Time: _____ AM/PM (Circle)

PERSON OBTAINING CONSENT

I have explained to _____ the nature and purpose of the study and the risks involved. I have answered and will answer all questions to the best of my ability.

Signature of Person Obtaining Consent: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ AM/PM (Circle)