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**Participant Information Leaflet for students**

**Study Title:**

Suffering sexual violence in silence: capturing the LGBTQUA+ student experience

**Investigator:**

Sophie Cole-Ducker

**Introduction**

You are invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide, you need to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. Please take the time to read the following information carefully. Talk to others about the study if you wish.

Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

**Who is organising and funding the study?**

The project is being funded by the Undergraduate Research Support Scheme, who are also organising the study.

**What is the study about?**

The purpose of the study is to see what factors impact how individuals view laws from an everyday perspective. Specifically: their degree, sexual orientation, and gender. This is because the research is focused on whether the Sexual Offences Act 2003 really does create a neutral standing when addressing sexual violence for members of the LGBTQUA+ community.

**Do I have to take part?**

No. Participation in this study is completely voluntary and choosing not to take part will not affect you in any way. You can also choose to withdraw you participation without giving a reason by not submitting any answers to the online survey. Further details about withdrawing from the study are provided later on in this document.

**What are the possible benefits of taking part in this study?**

Although there is no direct benefit to individual participants, this survey will provide societal benefits as it could help the University to understand where they fall short on the knowledge they are/ should be providing to students around sexual violence/ misconduct that may impact their life. Either as a student or after graduation. It could also help other future researchers who focus on the same topic, which may provide more societal benefits.

**What are the possible disadvantages, side effects or risks, of taking part in this study?**

Apart from the time set aside for participating in the online survey, the research area is one of a sensitive nature, so those who take part may become distressed. If this is so, you may withdraw from the survey at any time. Information on who to contact if you feel this way will be present at the end of the information leaflet.

**Expenses and payments**

The participant will receive no reimbursement for their participation nor any payment/ token for their time.

**Will my taking part be kept confidential?**

The data will be collected through an online survey and kept anonymous the whole time. The data will be processed to be included within the research as a way of ascertaining the legal consciousness of students within the University. The data will be secured under password protection and on a Warwick University server. Only my supervisor, deputy supervisor and myself will have access to this data to be able to view. Some of the data collected will be of a personal nature, so all the data will be anonymised instantly. This is to ensure that the data can be kept confidential and to ensure that you as a participant cannot be traced. This is to maintain your safety. Direct quotes may be used within the analysis and presentation of the data, but all of them will be anonymous and untraceable.

**What will happen to the data collected about me?**

As a publicly funded organisation, the University of Warwick have to ensure that it is in the public interest when we use personally identifiable information from people who have agreed to take part in research. This means that when you agree to take part in a research study, such as this, we will use your data in the ways needed to conduct and analyse the research study.

We will be using information from you in order to undertake this study and will act as the data controller for this study. We are committed to protecting the rights of individuals in line with data protection legislation. The University of Warwick/ myself will keep the data you have provided from the survey for a year after the study has finished (October 2022).

Research data will be anonymised instantly at data collection and it will not be possible to withdraw your data after the responses to the survey have been submitted. The data will be deleted a year after participation and will be used for research into student experiences/ knowledge of the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

**Data Sharing**

Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. The University of Warwick has in place policies and procedures to keep your data safe.

This data may also be used for future research, including impact activities following review and approval by an independent Research Ethics Committee and subject to your consent at the outset of this research project.

For further information, please refer to the University of Warwick Research Privacy Notice which is available here: <https://warwick.ac.uk/services/idc/dataprotection/privacynotices/researchprivacynotice> or by contacting the Legal and Compliance Team at [GDPR@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:GDPR@warwick.ac.uk).

**What will happen if I don’t want to carry on being part of the study?**

Participation is entirely voluntary, and a decision to withdraw (even without reason) will not affect you in any way. You may withdraw at any point from the survey, and you will thereafter not be a participant.

Please note that if you respond to the survey, your anonymised data may be quoted and will be used in analysis as instant anonymisation means that it cannot be removed. But the only data will be collected is that which you have already filled out. This is because the data is anonymised instantly, meaning that there is no way of identifying you. Unfortunately, the consequences of keeping the data confidential means that there is no way to remove it. If you are worried or unsure about taking part in the survey because of this, then there is no pressure to do so. As previously mentioned, if you choose not to take part then there are no implications on you.

**What will happen to the results of the study?**

The study may be submitted to journals for publication. The results may also be discussed within the University, specifically the School of Law. But, in the main, the results will be used in a presentation to show completion of research to the funding organisation.

**Who has reviewed the study?**

This study has been reviewed and given favourable opinion by the University of Warwick’s Humanities and Social Science Research Ethics Committee (HSSREC)

**Who should I contact if I want further information?**

Sophie Cole-Ducker (lead researcher), email: u2004514@live.warwick.ac.uk or Jane Bryan (supervisor), email: j.m.bryan@warwick.ac.uk

**Who should I contact if I wish to make a complaint?**

Any complaint about the way you have been dealt with during the study or any possible harm you might have suffered will be addressed. Please address your complaint to the person below, who is a senior University of Warwick official entirely independent of this study:

**Head of Research Governance**

Research & Impact Services

University House

University of Warwick

Coventry

CV4 8UW

Email: [researchgovernance@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:researchgovernance@warwick.ac.uk)

Tel: 02476 575733

If you wish to raise a complaint on how we have handled your personal data, you can contact our Data Protection Officer who will investigate the matter: DPO@warwick.ac.uk.

If you are not satisfied with our response or believe we are processing your personal data in a way that is not lawful you can complain to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO).

**Thank you for taking the time to read this Participant Information Leaflet**

**Survey link** : <https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5BGsJ4nHLqpzqKi>