



Experiences of Indigenous Girls in Grade 8-12 Public Education

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Leona Prince – District Principal (SD91)

Title of Project: Experiences of Indigenous Girls in Grade 8-12 Public Education

This consent form, a copy of which has been given to you, is only part of the process of informed consent. If you want more details about something mentioned here, or information not included here, you should feel free to ask. Please take the time to read this carefully and to understand any accompanying information.

The University of Calgary Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board has approved this research study.

Purpose – The purpose of this research is to understand the experiences of Indigenous girls in the educational system in School District 91. In addition, we seek to understand the strengths and difficulties they have experienced in their education. In no way is our research designed to be judgmental, we are only seeking methods to continually improve the quality of education and leadership in the district. If you choose to participate, all of your responses will be anonymized. You are not required to participate in this research. If you do wish to participate, you will not be treated differently by teachers, administrators or anyone involved in this research. If you do choose to participate, you have up to a week after your survey is complete to change your mind and remove your data from the study.

What will be asked of you? - This research will consist of surveys and short interviews in order to get your perspective on educational issues. These surveys will take approximately 15 minutes and will be administered by staff of School District 91. The questions will be basic about education and school experience. Your responses will be anonymized and analyzed among dozens of other teachers and community and hundreds of other students.

What will be done with the information – The information will be anonymized and combined in order to inform educational recommendations going forward in the district. In addition, findings from this study will be published in academic journals and presented at conferences. No one will ever know your individual responses and that you have participated in the study.

What Type of Personal Information Will Be Collected

No personal identifying information will be collected in this study.

The audiotapes recorded during the interviews will never be shown to anyone outside of the researchers, and will be destroyed immediately upon transcriptions.

There are several options for you to consider if you decide to take part in this research. You can choose all, some, or none of them. Please review each of these options and choose Yes or No:

I grant permission to be audio taped:

Yes: ___ No: ___

Are there Risks or Benefits if I Participate?

Our primary goal is to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants within the study. Based on the topic being researched we have no reason to assume to participants will be in any risk. However, we will work closely with our partners to ensure a safe space that honors the stories being shared. Indigenous methodologies are the bedrock of this research, which will help inform every interaction to ensure we are supportive and responsive based on both Indigenous and Western approaches.

What Happens to the Information I Provide?

Only the co-investigators and the research assistants will have access to the information from the interviews. At the time of interview only the initials of the participant will be known, or a pseudonym, if you choose not to give your initials. The researchers will do whatever they can to eliminate any identifiable information shared during the interviews.

If you decide to withdraw from the study, at any time, all of your interview audiotapes will be destroyed and none of your information will be transcribed or included in the study.

Participation is completely voluntary and confidential. You are free to discontinue participation at any time during the study. No one except the researchers and his investigators will be allowed to see or hear any of the answers. Only group information will be summarized for any presentation or publication of results. The transcribed interviews are kept in a locked cabinet only accessible by the researchers. The data will be retained by both the researcher and the First Nation partners. The data collection will occur in whichever site parents and students are the most comfortable. This could include their homes, the school, or a neutral location.

Signatures

Your signature on this form indicates that 1) you understand to your satisfaction the information provided to you about your participation in this research project, and 2) you agree to participate in the research project.

In no way does this waive your legal rights nor release the investigators, sponsors, or involved institutions from their legal and professional responsibilities. You are free to withdraw from this research project at any time. You should feel free to ask for clarification or new information throughout your participation.

Participant's Name: (please print) _____

Participant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Researcher's Name: (please print) _____

Researcher's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Questions/Concerns

If you have any further questions or want clarification regarding this research and/or your participation, please contact:

Dr. Dustin Louie
Werklund School of Education
(403)220-2684 dwlouie@ucalgary.ca

If you have any concerns about the way you've been treated as a participant, please contact an Ethics Resource Officer, Research Services Office, University of Calgary at (403) 220-4283/(403)220-6289; email cfreb@ucalgary.ca.

A copy of this consent form has been given to you to keep for your records and reference. The investigator has kept a copy of the consent form.