

[Title of Project Here] Assent Form for Adolescent Photographers (15-17 years of age)

WHAT IS THIS PROJECT ABOUT?

You are invited to participate in a research study called the [Title of Project Here]. The purpose of this study is to _____.

WHO ARE THE PEOPLE RUNNING THIS PROJECT? HOW CAN I CALL THEM?

The Principal Investigator for this project is _____. His telephone number is _____. You may call collect if you wish.

Insert institution address/contact information here.

WHAT WILL YOU BE ASKED TO DO?

You and five others like you will be given cameras and will decide as a group on several photo assignments that are related _____. After completing each assignment, you will all come back together to share and talk about your photos as a group. You will also be asked to write a little description of a few of your photos shared with the group.

If you are interested in participating, you and a parent(s) or guardian(s) will be asked to attend an *Informational Meeting*. During this meeting (about ½ to 1 hour) you will learn about the project and have the opportunity to ask any questions. If you decide to participate, you will also be asked to sign this Assent Form to make sure that you understand the purpose of the project, what you will be asked to do, and that you can stop participating in the project at any time you wish. **(Please note: you and your parent or legal guardian must sign and return a copy of this Assent Form and a Parental Consent Form during the Informational Meeting to participate in the rest of this project).**

If you choose to participate, you will be asked to attend about four meetings, or photo-discussion sessions, about 1-2 hours each with the others who participate. At the end of each meeting, you and the others will decide on the topic you would like to explore with your cameras. This is called a “photo-assignment.” You also will decide on dates and times when you will all come back together to discuss the photographs you have taken to complete the photo-assignments.

At the *Informational Meeting*, the Principal Investigator (_____) will discuss ethical and safety issues about taking photographs. For example, if you choose to take pictures of other people, we will review a form that you will use to ask people for their permission *before* you take their picture. **If you take a picture of someone 17 years old or younger, you will have to get permission from their parent or guardian as well.** You will then receive a camera, tips on how to use it, and practice using your camera to make sure you are comfortable with it.

During the photo-discussion sessions, you, the other participants, and _____ will all meet together to discuss the photos taken to complete the assignments. You will be asked to give your permission to have these “photo-discussions” audio-recorded. If you want to have the recorder

turned off for a while during the discussions, just tell the Principal Investigator to do so at any time. You may also refuse to be taped at all.

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH MY PHOTOGRAPHS?

At the end of the project you will receive a copy of all of your photographs. _____ will keep the negatives and one set of photographs to be used for educational purposes only, if this is okay with you and your parent(s) or guardian(s).

WHAT WILL YOU GET OUT OF BEING IN THIS PROJECT? WILL YOU GET PAID?

You will *not* be paid to be in the project, but you will receive copies of every photograph you take for the project. Also, there will be extra film provided for you to take pictures of anything or anyone you would like to for free. The film processing of the pictures you take for the project, and your individuals photos, will be free.

DO YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR ANYTHING TO TAKE PART IN THE PROJECT?

You will *not* have to pay anything to take part in the project. You can use the cameras, the film, and film processing will be free. The camera will be returned to the principal investigator at the end of the project. The only cost for being in the project is the time you take for taking the pictures and coming to the discussion meetings.

WHAT WILL YOU RISK BY BEING IN THIS PROJECT?

Taking part in the project should not put you at risk for physical harm. You *may* feel uncomfortable going out to take pictures, but we will discuss this at our meetings and talk about ways to feel more comfortable. Also, you may feel uncomfortable discussing some topics that come up. You *do not have to*, and will be reminded several times that you do not have to talk about anything that makes you feel uncomfortable.

WILL PEOPLE KNOW THAT I TOOK PART IN THE PROJECT?

To make sure what you say is confidential, you can use a different name, a nick name, during the study project so that nobody will see your real name connected with the project, if you prefer. Also, what other people say during the discussions is confidential, so you should not share anything you hear or see in the group with people outside the group. To protect the identities of people who appear in your photographs, you should not reveal their names during the discussions or anytime that their pictures are displayed. Please let _____ know if you have any questions.

DO YOU HAVE TO PARTICIPATE? DO YOU HAVE TO ANSWER EVERY QUESTION? CAN YOU QUIT THE PROJECT WHENEVER YOU WANT?

You *do not* have to participate in this study project. You also do *not* have to answer *any* of the questions asked during our discussion meetings. You are free to stop participating in the project at any time, for any reason. You have the right to quit the project at any time. If you wish to stop participating in the project, please contact the Principal Investigator: _____ at _____ and you may call collect.

If you are interested in participating in this project, **please read the following agreement statement very carefully**. Then, if you would still like to participate, please sign and date this form and return it to the principal investigator. You may keep a copy of the form for yourself and your guardian, in case you have any questions or concerns at a later date.

PARTICIPANT'S AGREEMENT STATEMENT:

By signing this assent form, I agree to participate in this project. I also understand and agree that unless otherwise notified in writing, the _____ [*institution*] assumes that permission is granted to use my photograph(s) and what is discussed during the photo-discussion group sessions for educational purposes only.

Sign your name here if you want to participate

Date

Print your name here if you want to participate

Signature of Person Obtaining Assent/Consent

Date

Printed Name of Person Obtaining Assent/Consent