

Assent Form

Project Title: School Safety Initiative (Qualtrics/SONA Title)

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We are doing a research study about whether high school students feel safe at school and how students' relationships with peers affect their daily lives. This research study explores whether high school students feel safe within school walls, whether they experience rejection from peers, and how they respond to those experiences. A research study is a way to learn more about people. If you decide that you want to be part of this study, you will be asked to complete a survey about your experiences at school and away from school. This survey will take approximately 20-30 minutes to complete.

There are some things about this study you should know. Completing this initial survey means that you are eligible for future studies. Depending on when your name is drawn, you may also be given the opportunity to maintain a daily diary about experiences at school over a two-week period in March and, later on, to participate in an online survey and/or a social experiment at the Mississippi State Social Science Research Center, Social Relations Collaborative. Note, names will not be connected to any data collected and each participant will be assigned a code number to track participation longitudinally over the span of 3 years.

Not everyone who takes part in this study will benefit from the research. A benefit means that something good happens to you. We think your participation will help us gain knowledge about student safety in schools that we can use to improve school safety in schools throughout the United States. This project is part of a national research study funded by the National Institute of Justice to make schools safer.

If you agree to participate, you will be given the choice of either a metal water bottle, 4 GB portable USB flash drive, or earbuds as a token of our appreciation for your help.

When we are finished with this study we will write a report about what we learned. This report will not include your name or that you were in the study.

You do not have to be in this study if you do not want to be. If you decide to stop after we begin, that's okay too.

If you decide you want to be in this study, please sign your name.

_____ *Yes, I'll be in the study.* _____ *No, I do not want to be in the study.*

Participant's Name (Please Print): _____

Signature Date

Investigator's Signature Date