



**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
HUMAN RESEARCH
PROTECTION PROGRAM**

**Parental or Legally Authorized
Representative Permission Template
Version 12-05-2013**

You are being asked to allow your child to participate in a research project. This form provides you with information about the project. Please read the information below before deciding whether to allow your child to participate.

PLEASE RETURN THE FORM – indicating whether you *do* or *do not* consent to your child’s participation – BY JANUARY 31st. It is important that we hear from you to know if you *do* want your child to participate.

Title of research project: School Safety Initiative (Qualtrics/SONA Title)

Site of research project: Starkville High School

Name of researcher(s) from Mississippi State University:

Colleen Sinclair, Rebecca Goldberg, Megan Stubbs-Richardson, and David May

The purpose of this research project:

- To explore whether high school students feel safe within school walls, whether they experience rejection from peers, and how they respond to those experiences.

If you agree to allow your child to participate in this research project, we will ask your child to do the following things:

- Your child will be asked to complete an online survey within Starkville High computer labs about experiences at school and away from school. Completing this initial survey means your child is eligible for future studies. Depending on if your child’s name is drawn for future studies, your child 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, participate in an online survey and/or a social experiment at the Social Science Research Center, Social Relations Collaborative. Participation in the initial survey at Starkville High School is necessary for eligibility for future opportunities. Thus, opting out now will mean opting out of all future studies. Opting in for the initial survey makes one eligible for future studies, but separate consent forms will be sent home for these follow-ups.

The total estimated time to participate in this initial research survey: 20-30 minutes

The risks of participation:

- We feel that your child will experience no more risk in this project than s/he would in his/her daily activities.

The benefits of participation:

- Your child’s participation in this project will help us gain knowledge about student safety in schools. With rising concerns about aggression in schools, we wish to assess the extent of these concerns among youth in Mississippi. This project is part of a national endeavor funded by the National Institute of Justice to make schools safer.

Compensation:

- If you and your child agree to participate, your child will be given either a metal water bottle, 4 GB portable USB flash drive, or earbuds as a token of our appreciation for his/her help.

